

GOTTSCHALKS INC  
Form 10-K  
April 10, 2008

---

---

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

---

FORM 10-K

---

(MARK ONE)

ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

**For the fiscal year ended February 2, 2008**

OR

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

FOR THE TRANSITION PERIOD FROM \_\_\_\_\_ TO \_\_\_\_\_

Commission file number 1-09100

[Gottschalks Inc.](#)

(Exact name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

**Delaware**

(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation or Organization)

**77-0159791**

(I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)

Edgar Filing: GOTTSCHALKS INC - Form 10-K

7 River Park Place East  
Fresno, California 93720

(Address of Principal Executive Offices including Zip Code)

(559) 434-4800

(Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code)

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of Each Class

Name of each exchange on which registered

Common Stock, \$.01 Par Value

New York Stock Exchange

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: **None**

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act.

YES  NO

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Act.  YES  NO

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15 (d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days.  YES  NO

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K (§229.405 of this chapter) is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer or a smaller reporting company. See definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer  Accelerated filer  Non-accelerated filer  Smaller reporting company   
(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act).   
YES  NO

Edgar Filing: GOTTSCHALKS INC - Form 10-K

The aggregate market value of the voting stock held by non-affiliates of the Registrant as of August 4, 2007: Common Stock, \$.01 par value: \$72,084,447.

On March 28, 2008 the Registrant had outstanding 13,282,958 shares of Common Stock.

DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

Portions of the Registrant's definitive proxy statement with respect to its Annual Stockholders' Meeting scheduled to be held on June 25, 2008, which will be filed pursuant to Regulation 14A, are incorporated by reference into Part III of this Form 10-K.

---

---

PDF provided as a courtesy

Gottschalks Inc.  
2007 ANNUAL REPORT ON FORM 10-K  
INDEX

Page

**Part I.**

Item 1.

Business

3

Item 1A.

Risk Factors

9

Item 1B.

Unresolved Staff Comments

11

Item 2.

Properties

11

Item 3.

Legal Proceedings

12

Item 4.

Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders

12

**Part II.**

Part I.

Item 5.

Market for the Registrant's Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities

12

Item 6.

Selected Financial Data

15

Item 7.

Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

18

Item 7A.

Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

35

Item 8.

Financial Statements and Supplementary Data

35

Item 9.

Changes in and Disagreements with Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure

35

Item 9A.

Controls and Procedures

35

Item 9B.

Other Information

36

Part III.

Item 10.

Directors and Executive Officers of the Registrant

36

Item 11.

Executive Compensation

37

Item 12.

Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Stockholder Matters

37

Item 13.

Certain Relationships and Related Transactions

37

Item 14.

Principal Accountant Fees and Services

38

Part IV.

Item 15.

Exhibits and Financial Statement Schedules

38

Signatures

PART I

Item 1. BUSINESS

GENERAL

Gottschalks Inc. (the "Company") is a regional department and specialty store chain based in Fresno, California. As of February 2, 2008, the Company operated 59 full-line "Gottschalks" department stores located in 6 Western states, with 39 stores located in California, 7 in Washington, 5 in Alaska, 4 in Oregon, 2 in Nevada and 2 in Idaho. The Company also operates 4 "Village East" and "Gottschalks" specialty stores, which carry a limited selection of merchandise. The Company is incorporated in the State of Delaware.

The Company's department stores typically offer a wide range of better to moderate brand-name and private-label merchandise, including men's, women's, juniors' and children's apparel; cosmetics, shoes, fine jewelry and accessories; and home furnishings including china, housewares, domestics, small electric appliances and, in selected locations, furniture and mattresses. The majority of the Company's department stores range from 40,000 to 150,000 gross square feet, and are generally anchor tenants of regional shopping malls or strategically located strip centers.

The Company has operated continuously for 103 years since it was founded by Emil Gottschalk in 1904. At the time the Company initially offered its stock to the public in 1986, the Company operated 10 department stores. Since then, a net total of 49 department stores have been added, 18 through acquisitions.

OPERATING STRATEGY

Merchandising Strategy

The Company's merchandising strategy is directed at offering and promoting moderate to better priced brand-name merchandise recognized by its customers for style and value. Brand-name merchandise is complemented with offerings of private-label. Brand-name apparel, shoes, cosmetics and accessories lines carried by the Company include Estee Lauder, Lancome, Clinique, Chanel, Dooney & Bourke, Nine West, Liz Claiborne, Calvin Klein, Nautica, Karen Kane, Ralph Lauren, Columbia, Fossil, Levi Strauss, Southpole, Izod, Quicksilver, Roxy, Woolrich and Carters. Brand-name merchandise carried for the home includes Simmons, Lenox, Krups, Kitchenaid and Samsonite.

The Company has also directed considerable effort towards improving the quality and increasing the penetration of private-label merchandise in its overall merchandise mix. The Company's most well recognized private-label is "Shaver Lake," currently carried in the women's, men's and home departments and the second largest volume private-label brand is "Taylor and Henry" carried in women's and men's departments. The "Shaver Lake" brand is exclusively offered in Gottschalks stores, and provides an opportunity to increase Gottschalks' brand acceptance and promote competitive differentiation. The Company plans to expand its private label offerings in men's and women's casual clothing in fiscal 2008.

The Company purchases merchandise from numerous suppliers. No single vendor accounted for more than 5% of the Company's net purchases in fiscal 2007. The Company's merchandising activities are conducted centrally from its corporate office in Fresno, California.

Edgar Filing: GOTTSCHALKS INC - Form 10-K

The Company's merchandise mix as a percentage of total sales (including leased department sales) is reflected in the following table:

	Fiscal Years				
	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003
Women's Apparel	29.0 %	28.3 %	28.2 %	28.6 %	28.1 %
Cosmetics, Shoes & Accessories	27.6	26.9	25.8	25.3	24.3
Home	16.7	17.9	18.7	18.9	20.1
Men's Apparel	12.4	12.7	12.8	12.8	13.3
Junior's and Children's Apparel	11.1	10.8	11.0	10.8	10.6
Leased Departments	3.2	3.4	3.5	3.6	3.6
<b>Total Sales</b>	<b>100.0 %</b>	<b>100.0 %</b>	<b>100.0 %</b>	<b>100.0 %</b>	<b>100.0 %</b>

### Store Locations

The Company's stores are located primarily in diverse, growing, non-major metropolitan or suburban areas in the western United States where management believes there is strong demand and fewer competitors offering similar better to moderate brand-name merchandise and a high level of customer service. The Company has historically avoided expansion into the center of major metropolitan areas that are served by the Company's larger competitors and has instead sought to open new stores in nearby suburban or secondary market areas.

The Company's department stores are generally anchor tenants of regional shopping malls or strategically located strip centers. Other anchor tenants in the malls or strip centers generally complement the Company's goods with a mixture of competing and non-competing merchandise and serve to increase customer foot traffic. With new enclosed regional shopping mall construction on the decline, the Company's strategy is to open stores in smaller and more diverse locations that may not be served by its larger competitors, who adopt a more standardized approach to expansion, and in "Lifestyle Centers" that feature a variety of retailers, upscale restaurants and, typically, multi-screen movie theatre.

The Company opened 1 new store in fiscal 2007. On November 7, 2007 the Company opened a 58,387 square foot store in Elk Grove, California. Future new store openings will focus on sites that will serve to "fill in" geographical areas between existing stores. Management believes this strategy will improve the Company's ability to leverage advertising, transportation and other operating costs more effectively. In addition to opening individual store locations, the Company may also pursue additional selective strategic acquisitions as stores may become available as a result of competitor consolidations.

The Company has continued to invest in the renovation and refixturing of its existing store locations in an attempt to maintain and improve market share in those market areas. Store renovation projects can range from updating décor and improving in-store lighting, fixturing, wall merchandising and signage, to more extensive remodeling and expansion projects. The Company sometimes receives reimbursement from mall owners and vendors for certain of its new store construction costs and costs associated with the renovation and refixturing of existing store locations. Such contributions have enhanced the Company's ability to enter into attractive market areas that are consistent with the Company's long-term expansion plans.

The Company closed one underperforming store in Wasilla, Alaska in April 2007 and closed one store in Tacoma, Washington in September 2007. However, the Company continues to operate stores in these respective market areas.



Edgar Filing: GOTTSCHALKS INC - Form 10-K

The following tables present selected data related to the Company's stores for the fiscal years indicated:

	Fiscal Years				
	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003
<b>Stores open at year-end:</b>					
Department stores	59 (1)	60 (2)	63 (3)	63	63 (4)
Specialty stores (5)	4	5	6	6	11
<b>Total</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>74</b>
<b>Gross store square footage(6) (in thousands):</b>					
Department stores	5,298	5,446	5,435	5,406	5,406
Specialty stores	11	27	30	30	42
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,309</b>	<b>5,473</b>	<b>5,465</b>	<b>5,436</b>	<b>5,448</b>

(1) The Company closed 2 stores, 1 of which was underperforming, and opened 1 new store in fiscal 2007.

(2) The Company closed 4 stores, 2 of which were underperforming, and opened 1 new store in fiscal 2006.

(3) The Company closed 3 stores, 2 of which were underperforming, and opened 3 new stores in fiscal 2005.

(4) The Company closed 6 stores in fiscal 2003, all of which were acquired in the Lamonts acquisition in July 2000.

(5) The Company has continued to close certain free-standing Village East stores as their leases expire and incorporate those stores as separate departments into nearby Gottschalks department stores.

(6) Reflects total store square footage, including office space, storage, service and other support space, and selling space.

Following is a summary of the Company's department store locations by store size:

	# of stores open
Larger than 200,000 gross square feet	2
150,000 - 199,999 gross square feet	8
100,000 - 149,999 gross square feet	9
40,000 - 99,999 gross square feet	32
20,000 - 39,999 gross square feet	8

### Marketing Strategy

The Company's marketing strategy is based on a multi-media approach, using newspapers, television, radio, direct mail, internet, and catalogs to highlight seasonal promotions, selected brand-name merchandise and frequent storewide sales events. Advertising efforts are focused on communicating the branded merchandise offered by the Company, and the high levels of quality, value and customer service available in the Company's stores. In its efforts to improve the effectiveness of its advertising expenditures, the Company uses data captured through its private-label credit card to develop segmented advertising and promotional events targeted at specific customers who have established purchasing patterns for certain brands, departments or store locations.

The Company's sales promotion strategy also focuses on special events such as fashion shows, bridal shows and wardrobing seminars in its stores and in the communities in which they are located to convey fashion trends to its customers. The Company receives reimbursement for certain of its promotional activities from some of its vendors.

The Company offers selected merchandise, a Bridal & Gift Registry service, and other general corporate information on the World Wide Web at

<http://www.gottschalks.com>, and sells merchandise through its mail order department. The information on the Company's website is not part of this annual report.

#### Customer Service

Management believes one way the Company can differentiate itself from its competitors is to provide a consistently high level of customer service. The Company has a "Four Star" customer service program, designed to continually emphasize and reward high standards of customer service in the Company's stores. Sales associates are encouraged to keep notebooks of customers' names, clothing sizes, birthdays, and major purchases, to telephone customers about promotional sales and to send thank-you notes and other greetings to their customers during their normal working hours. Product seminars and other training programs are frequently conducted in the Company's stores and its corporate headquarters to ensure that sales associates will be able to provide useful product information to customers. The Company also offers opportunities for management training and leadership classes for those associates identified for promotion within the Company. Various financial incentives are offered to the Company's sales associates for reaching sales performance goals.

In addition to providing a high level of personal sales assistance, management believes that well-stocked stores, a liberal return and exchange policy, frequent sales promotions and a conveniently located and attractive shopping environment enhance its customers' shopping experience and increase customer loyalty. Management also believes that maintaining appropriate staffing levels in its stores, particularly at peak selling periods, is essential for providing a high level of customer service.

Management focus for fiscal 2008 continues to include an increased effort to attract and service the 30 to 55 year old age group, as well as the Hispanic customer that continues to be a growing segment of the customer base in many current markets.

#### Distribution of Merchandise

The Company operates a 420,000 square foot distribution center located in Madera, California. The facility, constructed in 1989, is located near the Company's corporate headquarters in Fresno, California. The facility serves all of the Company's store locations, with timely distributions of merchandise to all stores, including its stores located in states outside California.

The Company has continued to improve its logistic systems, focusing on the adoption of new technology and operational best practices, with the goals of receiving, processing and distributing merchandise to stores at a faster rate and at a lower cost per unit. The Company's logistic systems enable the Company to "cross dock" the majority of its merchandise, thereby processing merchandise through the distribution center in several minutes as compared to the several days timeframe required in the past. The Company has formal guidelines for vendors with respect to shipping, receiving and invoicing for merchandise. Vendors that do not comply with the guidelines are charged specified fees depending upon the degree of non-compliance. Such fees are intended to offset higher costs associated with the processing of and payment for such merchandise.

#### Private-Label Credit Card

#### Sale of Receivables

On January 31, 2003, the Company sold its proprietary credit card accounts and accounts receivable to HSBC Bank Nevada, N.A. ("HSBC") and entered into a Credit Card Program Agreement (the "CCA"). The CCA set forth the

terms and conditions under which HSBC issued Gottschalks private-label credit cards and paid the Company for sales made on the cards. Under the terms of the CCA, the Company was required to perform certain duties, including the duties to receive in-store customer payments on behalf of HSBC and remit such payments to HSBC. The CCA had an initial term of five (5) years, expiring January 31, 2008, and was cancelable by either party under certain circumstances.

On February 4, 2007, the Company and HSBC entered into a new Credit Card Program Agreement which has a term of six (6) years and is cancelable by either party under certain circumstances. This amended agreement provides the Company will be paid a percentage of Net Cardholder Charges and a percentage of Other Revenue (as such terms are defined in the CCA). In addition, a percentage of net credit card sales (as defined in the CCA) will be used by HSBC and the Company to fund marketing programs to support the private-label credit card.

## Credit Card Program

Management believes the private-label credit card enhances the Company's ability to generate and retain market share as well as increase sales. Private-label credit card sales as a percentage of total sales were 43.2%, 41.7% and 40.0% in fiscal 2007, 2006 and 2005, respectively. The increase in the private-label credit card penetration is due to marketing programs established by the Company and HSBC and sales associate incentive programs rewarding the opening of new accounts. Efforts are underway between the Company and HSBC to increase the private-label credit card penetration further in 2008.

The Company has a variety of credit-related programs which management believes improve customer service and encourage credit-sales. Such programs include:

- An "Instant Credit" program, through which successful credit applicants receive a discount ranging from 10% to 50% (depending on the results of the Instant Credit scratch-off card) on their first purchase and 10% on additional purchases made the remainder of the day the account is opened;
- A "Plus Program" (formerly "55+"), charge account program, which offers additional merchandise and service discounts to customers 55 years of age and older;
- Various credit-card related promotional events throughout the year; and
- The "Gottschalks Treasure Rewards" program, which has two components. The first component is a program which offers one point for every one dollar in net annual spending using the Company's private label credit card. At the end of each calendar year qualifying customers are sent a merchandise certificate for up to 5% of the total points accumulated, up to a maximum of 10,000 points. Using a "points-based" system allows the Company to offer "double point" opportunities for opening new accounts and other promotions periodically throughout each year. The second component offers a 3-tier membership element where top customers spending \$2,000 or more annually receive a Diamond card with the highest level of benefits, including Free Designer Gift Wrap, Priority Customer Service Line and No Coupons Needed Ever. The middle tier customers spending \$1,000-\$1,999 annually receive a Sapphire card with middle level benefits and customers spending less than \$1,000 per year receive a Treasure card with card benefits, which all three customer tiers receive.

## Competition and Seasonality

See Part I, Item 1A, "Risk Factors - We Face Significant Competition From Other Retailers" and "Risk Factors - Our Business Is Susceptible To Economic Conditions And Other Factors That Affect Our Markets, Some Of Which Are Beyond Our Control".

## Employees

As of February 2, 2008, the Company had approximately 4,800 employees, including 2,300 employees working part-time (less than 35 hours per week on a regular basis). As of February 3, 2007, the Company had approximately 5,800 employees (including 1,700 working part-time). The decrease in the number of employees from the prior year is primarily due to staffing reductions in view of an uncertain general economy. The increase in part-time employees from the prior year is due to reductions in hours for the same reason. Also, the variances are partially attributable to one fewer store. The Company hires additional temporary employees and increases the hours of part-time employees during seasonal peak selling periods. Management considers its employee relations to be good.

## ACQUISITIONS

The Company has completed two significant acquisitions in its operating history, including the acquisition of 8 stores from The Harris Company ("Harris") in fiscal 1998, and an additional 34 store locations from Lamont's Apparel, Inc. ("Lamonts") in fiscal 2000. The Company continues to operate 12 of the original 34 stores acquired from Lamonts, some of which have continued to perform below expectations. In the event the Company is unable to improve the performance of such underperforming stores, the Company may consider the sale, sublease or closure of these stores in the future.



## Special Strategic Committee and Value Improvement Program

In the fourth quarter of fiscal 2006, the Company announced that its Board of Directors formed a special strategic committee comprised of the Board's six independent directors to review business opportunities and alternatives. The Company also announced that the Board of Directors had retained UBS Investment Bank to assist its special strategic committee in exploring various alternatives available to the Company. The Company continued to use the financial advisory services of Financo, Inc.

The Committee conducted a review of various strategic alternatives to maximize shareholder value, including a revised business plan, operating partnerships, joint ventures, strategic alliances, share repurchase, recapitalization, and the sale or merger of the Company. On August 30, 2007, the Company announced that the Committee had concluded its evaluation of strategic alternatives and determined it was in the best interest of Gottschalks' shareholders to aggressively focus on a revised business plan. With this decision, the strategic committee was dissolved.

In connection with the conclusion of the strategic alternatives review process, the Company announced its new Value Improvement Program (V.I.P.). Goals of the V.I.P. include increasing top line performance, improving operating margin, and maximizing shareholder value. The V.I.P., developed with the assistance of Financo Inc., includes opening new stores, new creative and targeted marketing programs, significant enhancements to information technology systems and a plan to better utilize the Company's owned real estate. In line with the V.I.P., the Company plans to construct a 55,000 square foot store in Bend, Oregon, which will open to business in late fall 2008. The Company also plans to accelerate closings of poor performing stores, including the closing of two stores at their lease expirations in the second quarter of fiscal 2008. Under the V.I.P., the Board of Directors also implemented a share repurchase program that is funded through the Company's cash and credit facility. The Company began repurchasing shares in the third quarter of fiscal 2007.

The V.I.P. will be carried out into fiscal 2008 and the future, and will be funded through the refinancing of the Company's credit facility with General Electric Capital Corporation. The Company anticipates seeing near-term benefits to its top and bottom lines in the second half of fiscal 2008 with results more fully realized in fiscal 2009.

## Available Information

Gottschalks' internet address is

<http://www.gottschalks.com>. We have made available, free of charge through our website, our annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Forms 8-K and amendments to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, as soon as reasonably practicable after such documents are electronically filed with, or furnished to, the Securities and Exchange Commission.

## Executive Officers of the Registrant

Information relating to the Company's executive officers is included in Part III, Item 10 of this report and is incorporated herein by reference.

## FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This Form 10-K contains certain "forward-looking statements" regarding activities, developments and conditions that the Company anticipates may occur or exist in the future relating to things such as:

- the Company's ability to meet debt obligations and adhere to the restrictions and covenants imposed under its various debt agreements;
- the timely receipt of merchandise and the Company's ability to obtain adequate trade credit from its key factors and vendors;

## Edgar Filing: GOTTSCHALKS INC - Form 10-K

- the Company's ability to either improve the operating results and cash flows of underperforming stores, or to sell, sublease or close those stores that continue to be underperforming;
- the impact of higher interest rates;
- the impact of higher operating costs, including workers' compensation, property and casualty insurance, unemployment compensation, health care and energy costs;
- future capital expenditures;
- the Company's competitive strategy, competitive pricing and other competitive pressures;
- the effect of the adoption of new accounting standards by the Company;



## Edgar Filing: GOTTSCHALKS INC - Form 10-K

- the realization of the Company's deferred tax assets;
- the Company's assumptions and expectations underlying its critical accounting policies (see Part II, Item 7, "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations");
- the overall level of consumer spending and demand for the products offered;
- general economic conditions;
- the impact of sales promotions and customer service programs on consumer spending;
- lease extensions and suitable alternative store locations; and
- the future cost and utilization of consumer credit programs under the CCA.

Such forward-looking statements can be identified by words such as: "believes," "anticipates," "expects," "intends," "seeks," "may," "will," "projects," "forecasts," "plans" and "estimates". The Company bases its forward-looking statements on its current views and assumptions. As a result, those statements are subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those predicted. Some of the factors that could cause the Company's results to differ from those predicted include the risk factors discussed under Item 1A, "Risk Factors", as well as other risks and uncertainties discussed in other documents filed by the Company with the Securities and Exchange Commission. In addition, the Company typically earns a disproportionate share of its operating income in the fourth quarter because of seasonal buying patterns, which are difficult to forecast with certainty. While the Company believes that its assumptions are reasonable, it cautions that it is impossible to predict the impact of such factors which could cause actual results to differ materially from predicted results.

### Item 1A. RISK FACTORS

Our business is subject to certain risks, and those risks should be considered while evaluating our business and financial results. Any of the risks discussed below could materially and adversely affect our operating results and financial condition, as well as the projections and beliefs about our future performance. Accordingly, our results could differ materially from those projected in our forward-looking statements. In addition, the preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions. These estimates and assumptions affect the reported amounts and timing of revenue and expenses, the reported amounts and classification of assets and liabilities and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. Actual results could differ materially from our estimates and assumptions. (See Part II, Item 7, "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations - Critical Accounting Policies".)

#### Our Sources of Liquidity Are Limited

Our working capital requirements are currently met through a combination of cash generated by operations, borrowings under our senior revolving credit facility, short-term trade and factor credit, and by proceeds from external financings and sale transactions. In the event these sources of liquidity are not adequate, we may be required to pursue one or more alternative sources, which could include the sale of stores or the issuance of additional equity or equity-linked securities. If the estimates or assumptions relative to any one of these sources of liquidity are not realized, our business, financial condition and results of operations may be materially adversely affected.

Although we have significantly improved our leverage position, the ability to obtain additional or alternative sources of financing in the future for working capital, capital expenditures, new store openings, acquisitions and other general corporate purposes may be limited. This limited financial flexibility may result in increased vulnerability to general adverse economic and industry conditions, a more limited ability to react to changes in the business environment and the industry in which we compete, and being at a competitive disadvantage with competitors that have less debt and greater access to capital resources.

Our existing debt agreements impose operating and financial restrictions that limit our ability to make dividend payments and grant liens, among other matters.

We are Highly Dependent on Key Relationships with Vendors and Factors

The success of our business is highly dependent upon the adequacy of trade credit offered by key vendors and factors to the Company's vendors, the vendors' ability and willingness to sell its products at favorable prices and terms, and the willingness of vendors to ship merchandise on a timely basis. Restrictions to the amount of trade credit granted by key factors and vendors can adversely impact the volume of merchandise we are able to purchase. Any significant reduction in the volume of merchandise we are able to purchase, or a prolonged disruption in the

timing of when merchandise is received, would have a material adverse affect on our business, liquidity position, and results of operations.

### We Face Significant Competition From Other Retailers

The retail business is highly competitive, and if we fail to compete effectively, we could lose market share. Our primary competitors include national, regional and local chain department and specialty stores, general merchandise stores, discount and off-price retailers and outlet malls. Increased use and acceptance of the internet and other home shopping formats also creates increased competition. Some of these competitors offer similar or better-branded merchandise and have greater financial resources to purchase larger quantities of merchandise at lower prices. Our ability to counteract these competitive pressures depends on our ability to:

- offer merchandise which reflects the different regional and local needs of our customers;
- differentiate and market ourselves as a home-town, locally-oriented store (as opposed to our more nationally focused competitors); and
- continue to offer adequate quantities of better to moderately priced branded and private label merchandise at comparable profit margins.

### Our Business Is Susceptible To Economic Conditions and Other Factors That Affect Our Markets, Some of Which Are Beyond Our Control

#### General Economic and Market Conditions

. Our stores are located primarily in non-major metropolitan, suburban and agricultural areas in the western United States. A substantial portion of the stores are located in California and Washington. Our success depends upon consumer spending, which may be materially and adversely affected by any of the following events or conditions:

- the downturn in the national economy;
- the downturn in the local California and Pacific Northwest economies where the stores are located;
- the decline in consumer confidence;
- an increase in interest rates;
- inflation or deflation;
- consumer credit availability;
- consumer debt levels;
- higher energy costs in California and the Pacific Northwest;
- higher healthcare and workers' compensation insurance costs;
- higher property and casualty insurance costs;
- tax rates and policy; and
- unemployment trends.

#### Seasonality and Weather

. Seasonal influences affect our sales and profits. We experience our highest levels of sales and profits during the Christmas selling months of November and December, and, to a lesser extent, during the Easter holiday and Back-to-School seasons. We have increased working capital needs prior to the Christmas season to carry significantly higher inventory levels and generally increase our selling staff levels to meet anticipated demands. Any substantial decrease in sales during our traditional peak selling periods could materially adversely impact our business, financial condition and results of operations.

We also depend on normal weather patterns across our markets. Historically, unusual weather patterns have significantly impacted our business.

#### Consumer Trends.

Our success partially depends on our ability to anticipate and respond to changing consumer preferences and fashion trends in a timely manner. However, it is difficult to predict what merchandise consumers will demand, particularly merchandise that is trend driven. Failure to accurately predict constantly changing consumer tastes, preferences and spending patterns could adversely affect short and long-term results.

War and Acts of Terrorism.

The involvement of the United States in war or other conflicts have had an adverse impact on us by, among other things, adversely affecting retail sales as a result of reduced consumer spending, and by causing substantial increases in fuel prices thereby increasing the costs of doing business. Any war, political conflict or significant act of terrorism on U.S. soil or elsewhere could have an adverse effect on us and could impede the flow of imports or domestic products to the Company.

### We May Face Higher Operating Costs

Approximately 78% of our debt at February 2, 2008 has underlying variable interest rates, which may result in higher interest expense in the event interest rates are raised. (See Item 7A "Qualitative and Quantitative Disclosures about Market Risk")

A substantial portion of our stores are located in California and Washington. As a result, we are particularly sensitive to negative occurrences in those states. Our inability to adequately address such problems could have a material adverse affect on our financial position and results of operations. In addition, we are facing higher unemployment compensation, health insurance and property and casualty insurance costs in the market areas in which we operate. There can be no assurance that we will be able to fully offset the negative impact of such higher costs.

### We Depend On Attracting and Retaining Quality Employees

We depend on attracting and retaining a large number of qualified employees to maintain and increase sales and to execute our customer service programs. Many of our employees are in entry level or part-time positions with historically high levels of turnover. Our ability to meet our employment needs is dependent on a number of factors, including the following factors which affect our ability to hire or retain qualified employees:

- unemployment levels;
- minimum wage legislation;
- rising health care costs; and
- changing demographics in the local economies where stores are located.

### Item 1B. UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS

None

### Item 2. PROPERTIES

#### Corporate Office and Distribution Center

The Company's corporate headquarters is located in an office building in Fresno, California. The building was constructed in 1991 and is owned by a limited partnership in which the Company holds a 36% interest as the sole limited partner. The Company leases 89,000 square feet of the 176,000 square foot building under a twenty-year lease expiring in 2011. The lease contains two consecutive ten-year renewal options. The Company has financed its interest in the partnership at a fixed interest rate of 7.5% due in February 2010. The Company believes that its current office space is adequate to meet its office space requirements for the foreseeable future.

The Company's distribution center, constructed in 1989, is a 420,000 square foot distribution facility located in Madera, California, which is in close proximity to the Company's corporate headquarters. The facility was originally designed to provide for the future growth of the Company and its processing capacity and physical size is readily expandable. The Company leases the distribution facility from an unrelated party under a 20-year lease expiring in the year 2009, with six consecutive five-year renewal options.

#### **Store Leases and Locations**

The Company owns six of its 59 department stores and leases the remaining 53 department stores and all of its 4 specialty stores. The Company's department store leases expire in various years through 2025, and have renewal options for one or more periods ranging from five to 10 years. While there is no assurance that the Company will be able to negotiate further extensions of any particular lease, management believes that satisfactory extensions or suitable alternative store locations will be available.

Certain of the department and specialty store leases provide for the payment of additional contingent rentals based on a percentage of sales, require the payment of property taxes, insurance and maintenance costs, and, in certain cases, also provide for rent abatements and scheduled rent increases during the lease terms. The Company leases three of its department stores from ECI, an affiliate of the Company, and one department store from River Park

Edgar Filing: GOTTSCHALKS INC - Form 10-K

Properties VII, also a related party (see Note 15 to the Financial Statements). Additional information pertaining to the Company's store leases is included in Note 8 to the Financial Statements.

The following table contains additional information about the Company's stores open as of the end of fiscal 2007:

State	# of Stores	Gross Square Footage(1)
<b>Department Stores:</b>		
California	39	4,076,961
Washington	7	366,401
Alaska	5	293,796
Oregon	4	281,798
Nevada	2	208,411
Idaho	2	71,150
Total	59	5,298,517

**Specialty Stores:**

California 3 7,729 Nevada 1

3,211

Total 4

10,940

(1) Reflects total store square footage, including office space, storage, service and other support space, and selling space.

Item 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

None. The Company is party to legal proceedings and claims which have arisen during the ordinary course of business. In the opinion of management, the ultimate outcome of such litigation and claims is not expected to have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial position or results of its operations.

Item 4. SUBMISSION OF MATTERS TO A VOTE OF SECURITIES HOLDERS

No matters were submitted to a vote of security holders of the Company during the fourth quarter of the fiscal year covered in this report.

PART II

Item 5. MARKET FOR REGISTRANT'S COMMON EQUITY, RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS AND ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES

Edgar Filing: GOTTSCHALKS INC - Form 10-K

The Company's common stock is listed for trading on the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE"). The following table sets forth the high and low sales prices per share of common stock as reported on the NYSE Composite Tape under the symbol "GOT" during the periods indicated:

Fiscal Quarters	2007		2006	
	High	Low	High	Low
1st Quarter	\$ 14.80	\$ 10.48	\$ 9.80	\$ 8.60
2nd Quarter	\$ 13.90	\$ 7.01	\$ 9.35	\$ 6.29
3rd Quarter	\$ 7.05	\$ 4.16	\$ 9.33	\$ 7.85
4th Quarter	\$ 4.16	\$ 2.04	\$ 11.89	\$ 9.25

On March 28, 2008, the Company had 661 stockholders of record, some of which were brokerage firms or other nominees holding shares for multiple stockholders. The closing price of the Company's common stock as reported by the NYSE on March 28, 2008 was \$2.87 per share.



The Company has not paid a cash dividend since its initial public offering in 1986. The Board of Directors has no present intention to pay cash dividends in the foreseeable future, and will determine whether to declare cash dividends in the future depending on the Company's earnings, financial condition and capital requirements. In addition, the Company's senior revolving credit agreement and certain of its other debt agreements prohibit the Company from paying dividends without prior written consent from those lenders. (See Item 7, "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.")

The following table presents information with respect to the Company's purchases of common stock during the fourth quarter of 2007:

	<b>Total Number of Shares Purchased</b>	<b>Average Price Paid per Share</b>	<b>Total Number of Shares Purchased Under Publicly Announced Program</b>	<b>Maximum Number of Shares Remaining Under the Program (1)</b>
	(thousands)		(thousands)	(thousands)
Month #1 (November 4 - December 1)	97	\$ 3.91	97	1,811
Month #2 (December 2 - January 5)	148	3.55	148	1,663
Month #3 (January 6 - February 2)	81	2.26	81	1,582

(1) On September 11, 2007, the Company's Board of Directors approved the repurchase of up to two million shares of its common stock, which the Company announced to the public on September 17, 2007. The authorization for this share repurchase expires on September 11, 2008.

The following table provides information as of February 2, 2008 about the Company's common stock that may be issued upon the exercise of options granted to employees or members of the Board of Directors under all of the Company's existing equity compensation plans.

<b>Plan Category</b>	(a) Number of securities to be issued upon exercise of outstanding options	(b) Weighted-average exercise price of outstanding options	(c) Number of securities remaining available for future issuance under equity compensation plans (excluding securities reflected in column (a))
Equity compensation plans approved by security holders	1,026,250	\$6.52	1,432,500
Equity compensation plans not approved by security holders	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,026,250</b>	<b>\$6.52</b>	<b>1,432,500</b>

Performance Graph

The following graph compares the cumulative total return on the Company's common stock with the cumulative total return of the S & P Smallcap 600 Index and the S & P Department Stores Index for the five-year period commencing January 31, 2003. The stock price performance shown on the graph below is not necessarily indicative of future price performance.

## Item 6. SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA

The Company reports on a 52/53 week fiscal year ending on the Saturday nearest to January 31. The fiscal years ended February 2, 2008, February 3, 2007, January 28, 2006, January 29, 2005 and January 31, 2004 are referred to herein as fiscal 2007, 2006, 2005, 2004 and 2003, respectively. All fiscal years noted include 52 weeks with the exception of fiscal 2006 which includes 53 weeks.

The selected unaudited financial data below should be read in conjunction with Item 7, "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations," and the Financial Statements of the Company and related notes included elsewhere herein.

	Fiscal Years				
	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003
	(In thousands of dollars, except share data)				
<b>RESULTS OF OPERATIONS:</b>					
Net sales	\$ 628,550	\$ 680,966	\$ 665,460	\$ 650,256	\$ 649,087
Net credit revenues	4,868	3,087	3,084	3,106	3,729
Net leased department revenues (1)	3,000	3,428	3,506	3,515	3,525
<b>Total revenues</b>	<b>636,418</b>	<b>687,481</b>	<b>672,050</b>	<b>656,877</b>	<b>656,341</b>
<b>Costs and expenses:</b>					
Cost of sales	420,887	446,619	434,387	424,775	427,221
Selling, general and administrative expenses (2)	209,552	212,355	204,945	201,073	198,069
Depreciation and amortization	15,173	15,276	13,242	12,830	14,026
Gain on sale of aircraft (3)	-	(946)	-	-	-
Loss on disposal of assets	418	-	-	-	-
VEBA litigation (4)	-	60	1,811	-	-
New store opening costs (5)	485	376	688	-	-
<b>Total costs and expenses</b>	<b>646,515</b>	<b>673,740</b>	<b>655,073</b>	<b>638,678</b>	<b>639,316</b>
<b>Operating income (loss)</b>	<b>(10,097)</b>	<b>13,741</b>	<b>16,977</b>	<b>18,199</b>	<b>17,025</b>
<b>Other (income) expense:</b>					
Interest expense	10,807	10,058	9,242	9,509	13,296
Miscellaneous income	(489)	(1,389)	(1,515)	(1,565)	(2,262)
	10,318	8,669	7,727	7,944	11,034
<b>Income (loss) from continuing operations before income taxes</b>	<b>(20,415)</b>	<b>5,072</b>	<b>9,250</b>	<b>10,255</b>	<b>5,991</b>
<b>Income tax expense (benefit)</b>	<b>(7,982)</b>	<b>1,631</b>	<b>3,107</b>	<b>3,676</b>	<b>2,097</b>
<b>Income (loss) from continuing operations</b>	<b>(12,433)</b>	<b>3,441</b>	<b>6,143</b>	<b>6,579</b>	<b>3,894</b>

Edgar Filing: GOTTSCHALKS INC - Form 10-K

Discontinued operations:

Loss from operation of closed stores	-	(1,102)	(1,609)	(1,935)	(3,060)
Gain (loss) on store closures	-	(98)	180	(31)	(789)
Income tax benefit	-	408	486	668	1,309
		<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Loss on discontinued operations	-	(792)	(943)	(1,298)	(2,540)
		<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Net income (loss)	\$ (12,433)	\$ 2,649	\$ 5,200	\$ 5,281	\$ 1,354
		<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

Edgar Filing: GOTTSCHALKS INC - Form 10-K

	Fiscal Years				
	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003
	(In thousands of dollars, except share data)				
Net income (loss) per common share					
Basic:					
Income (loss) from continuing operations	\$ (0.91)	\$ 0.26	\$ 0.46	\$ 0.51	\$ 0.30
Loss on discontinued operations	-	(0.06)	(0.07)	(0.10)	(0.20)
Net income (loss) per common share	(0.91)	0.20	0.39	0.41	0.10
Diluted:					
Income (loss) from continuing operations	(0.91)	0.25	0.45	0.49	0.30
Loss on discontinued operations	-	(0.06)	(0.07)	(0.09)	(0.20)
Net income (loss) per common share	\$ (0.91)	\$ 0.19	\$ 0.38	\$ 0.40	\$ 0.10
Weighted-average number of common shares outstanding:					
Basic	13,601	13,428	13,245	12,922	12,830
Diluted	13,601	13,758	13,797	13,352	12,919

	Fiscal Years				
	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003
	(In thousands of dollars)				
<b>SELECTED BALANCE SHEET DATA:</b>					
Receivables, net	\$ 7,049	\$ 8,198	\$ 7,284	\$ 6,920	\$ 9,145
Merchandise inventories (6)	149,310	168,702	159,986	152,753	156,552
Property and equipment, net	137,931	134,696	133,545	126,509	127,561
Total assets	331,994	350,066	335,022	321,253	326,137
Working capital	105,291	117,301	96,930	94,439	58,444
Long-term obligations, less current portion (7)	105,948	97,354	76,906	71,403	41,302
Subordinated note payable to affiliate	18,180	19,180	20,180	21,180	22,180
Stockholders' equity	111,945	124,592	119,904	112,356	106,368

	Fiscal Years				
	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003
	(In thousands of dollars, except percentages, ratios and per square foot data)				
<b>OTHER SELECTED DATA:</b>					
Sales growth:					
Total store sales (8)(10)	(6.6) %	(0.3)%	2.3%	(0.7)%	(3.5)%
Comparable store sales (9)(10)	(5.1) %	0.6%	1.2%	0.2%	(0.7)%
Comparable stores data (9)(11):					
Sales per selling square foot	\$ 155	\$ 155	\$ 149	\$ 149	\$ 149
Selling square footage	4,053	4,400	4,499	4,451	4,451
Capital expenditures	\$ 20,662	\$ 21,100	\$ 22,227	\$ 13,745	\$ 4,363

Edgar Filing: GOTTSCHALKS INC - Form 10-K

Current ratio	2.42:1	2.38:1	2.06:1	2.10:1	1.46:1
---------------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------

- (1) Net leased department revenues consist of sales totaling \$21.0 million, \$23.9 million, \$24.4 million, \$24.3 million, and \$24.5 million, in fiscal 2007, 2006, 2005, 2004, and 2003, respectively, less cost of sales.
- (2) The Company implemented SFAS No. 123R in fiscal 2006, as such, \$417,000 and \$810,000 of share-based compensation expense is included in selling, general and administrative expenses in fiscal 2007 and 2006, respectively.
- (3) Represents the sale of a corporate aircraft for \$1,037,000 (net of selling costs) that resulted in a gain of \$946,000.
- (4) Represents reserves and increases in the estimated settlement of a class action complaint alleging violation of California law regarding payment of accrued vacation upon termination of employment. See Note 16 to the Financial Statements.
- (5) Represents new store pre-opening costs such as payroll and fringe benefits for store associates, store rents, temporary storage, utilities, travel, grand opening advertising, credit solicitation and other costs incurred prior to the opening of a store.
- (6) The decrease in inventory from 2006 to 2007 is primarily related to decreased sales and a planned reduction in inventory levels. The increase in inventory from 2005 to 2006 is primarily related to one additional week's receipts owing to the 53<sup>rd</sup> week ending February 3, 2007. The increase in inventory from fiscal 2004 to 2005 is related to new store openings net of store closures and the timing on certain spring receipt flows. The decrease in inventory from fiscal 2003 to 2004 is primarily due to the reduction of inventory levels to more closely reflect selling trends, and to store closures.
- (7) Excludes Subordinated Note Payable to Affiliate, which is separately stated.
- (8) Total store sales include sales from stores reported in discontinued operations.
- (9) Comparable stores are defined as stores which have been open for at least 12 full months and which remain open as of the applicable reporting date. However, reflecting the effects of the opening of the River Park store on other Fresno area stores, such stores are excluded from the comparable store base in fiscal 2006 and fiscal 2005.
- (10) For comparative purposes, sales growth percentages exclude the effect of 53<sup>rd</sup> week sales in fiscal 2006.
- (11) Includes leased department sales in order to facilitate an understanding of the Company's sales relative to its selling square footage.

Item 7. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Following is management's discussion and analysis of significant factors that have affected the Company's financial position and its results of operations for the periods presented in the accompanying financial statements.

Fiscal 2007 and 2005 results include 52 weeks. Fiscal 2006 results include 53 weeks.

Overview

The Company is a regional department and specialty store chain completing its 103<sup>rd</sup> year of operation. As of February 2, 2008, the Company operated 59 full-line "Gottschalks" department stores located in six Western states, with the majority of those stores located in California. The Company also operates 4 "Village East" specialty stores which carry a limited selection of merchandise.

The Company's department stores typically offer a wide range of better to moderate brand-name and private-label merchandise, including men's, women's, juniors' and children's apparel; cosmetics, shoes, fine jewelry and accessories; and home furnishings including china, housewares, domestics, small electric appliances and, in selected locations, furniture and mattresses.

In the fourth quarter of fiscal 2006, the Company announced that its Board of Directors formed a special strategic committee to identify and evaluate various strategic alternatives to maximize shareholder value, including, a revised business plan, operating partnerships, joint ventures, strategic alliances, share repurchases, a recapitalization, and the sale or merger of the Company. The special strategic committee was comprised of the Board's six independent directors. The Company also announced that the Board of Directors retained UBS Investment Bank to assist its special strategic committee in exploring various alternatives available to the Company. The Company continued to use the financial advisory services of Financo, Inc.

On August 30, 2007, the Company announced that the Committee had concluded its evaluation of strategic alternatives and determined it was in the best interest of Gottschalks' shareholders to aggressively focus on a revised business plan. With this decision, the strategic committee was dissolved.

In connection with the conclusion of the strategic alternatives review process, the Company announced its new Value Improvement Program (V.I.P.). Goals of the V.I.P. include increasing top line performance, improving operating margin, and maximizing shareholder value. The V.I.P., developed with the assistance of Financo Inc., includes opening new stores, new creative and targeted marketing programs, significant enhancements to information technology systems and a plan to better utilize the Company's owned real estate. In line with the V.I.P., the Company also plans to accelerate closings of poor performing stores, including the closing of two stores at their lease expirations in the second quarter of fiscal 2008. The Company plans to construct a 55,000 square foot store in Bend, Oregon which will open for business in late fall, fiscal 2008.

The V.I.P. will be carried out into fiscal 2008 and the future, and will be funded through the Company's refinanced credit facility with General Electric Capital Corporation. The Company anticipates seeing near-term benefits to its top and bottom lines in the second half of fiscal 2008 with results more fully realized in fiscal 2009.

The Company's Board of Directors announced its share repurchase program in September 2007, which allows for the repurchase of up to 2 million shares over 12 months subject to certain pricing conditions. During fiscal 2007, the Company repurchased 417,800 shares for \$1,487,000, at an average cost of \$3.56 per share including commissions. Such shares are reflected as treasury stock in the stockholder's equity section of the condensed balance sheet. Purchases may be made at management's discretion in the open market and in privately negotiated transactions as market and business conditions warrant. There were no share repurchases in fiscal 2006 and 2005.



The retail industry is highly competitive. The Company experiences competitive pressures from department stores, specialty stores, mass merchandisers and other retail channels, and from general consumer spending levels, including the impact of employment levels and other economic conditions. Eighty percent of the Company's revenues are concentrated in California markets that were heavily impacted by the current mortgage credit crisis. These markets continue to endure abnormally high mortgage foreclosure rates, which has had a significant adverse effect on consumer spending.

During fiscal 2007 the Company closed 2 stores, 1 of which was underperforming, and opened 1 store in Elk Grove, California. The store gross margin dollars lost by these closures were somewhat offset by incremental gross margin dollars generated from a successful new store opening.

The Company signed a second Amended and Restated Credit Agreement with General Electric Capital Corporation to refinance its existing credit facility on September 26, 2007. The new credit facility consists of a \$200 million senior secured revolving credit facility (including a \$20 million letter of credit sub-facility). Borrowings under the revolving credit facility are limited to the sum of (a) a specified percentage of eligible credit card receivables, (b) a specified percentage of the net recovery value of eligible inventory, as determined by periodic valuation performed by an independent appraiser, and (c) 65% of the fair market value of the Company's real estate. Such borrowings are further limited by a requirement to maintain a minimum of \$15 million of excess availability at all times, and other reserves. Substantially all of the Company's assets, including its merchandise inventories, are pledged under the credit facility.

The new credit facility contains restrictive financial and operating covenants, including the requirement to maintain a fixed charge coverage ratio of 1:1 (as defined in the agreement) if the Company's excess borrowing availability is below \$20 million. As of February 2, 2008, management believes the Company was in compliance with all restrictive financial covenants applicable to the credit facility. The agreement has a five year term expiring September 26, 2012.

From January 26, 2006 to September 26, 2007, the credit facility, as amended on January 26, 2006, consisted of a revolving credit facility of up to \$172 million (including a \$20 million letter of credit sub-facility) and a fully funded term loan of \$9 million. Borrowings under the revolving credit facility, as amended, were limited to the sum of (a) a specified percentage of eligible credit card receivables, (b) the lesser of specified percentages of (i) the cost of eligible inventory and (ii) the net recovery value of the inventory, as determined by periodic valuation performed by an independent appraiser, and (c) the lesser of (i) up to 60% of the fair market value of the designated properties and (ii) \$21.6 million. Such borrowings were further limited by a requirement to maintain a minimum of \$5 million of excess availability at all times, and other reserves that were in effect. Substantially all of the Company's assets, including its merchandise inventories, were pledged under the credit facility.

As a result of its stable performance and continued improvement in debt structure, the Company plans to increase its efforts to refresh the presentation of its core store base as well as continue to explore opportunities for controlled new store growth.

#### Critical Accounting Policies

The Company's significant accounting policies are described in Note 1 to the Financial Statements included in Part IV, Item 15 of this Form 10-K. The Company's discussion and analysis of its financial condition and results of operations are based upon the Company's financial statements, which have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The preparation of these financial statements requires the Company to make estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses, and the related disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. On an ongoing basis, the Company evaluates its estimates, including those related to its revenue recognition policy, the carrying value of its merchandise inventories, the adequacy of its workers' compensation insurance reserves, and the valuation of its long-lived assets, including goodwill, and its deferred tax assets. The Company bases its estimates on historical experience and on various other assumptions that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. In the past, actual results have not been materially different from the Company's estimates.

Some of the Company's significant accounting policies involve a higher degree of judgment or complexity than its other accounting policies. The policies described below have been identified as critical to the Company's business operations and the understanding of its results of operations. The impact and associated risks related to these policies on the Company's business operations are discussed throughout Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.



## Revenue Recognition Policy

Net retail sales are recognized at the point-of-sale, net of estimated sales returns and allowances and exclusive of sales tax. Net retail sales also include all amounts billed to a customer in a sale transaction for shipping and handling, including customer delivery charges. Revenues on special order sales are recognized when the merchandise is delivered to the customer. The Company's policy with respect to gift cards is to record revenue as the gift cards are redeemed for merchandise. Prior to their redemption, the gift cards are recorded as a liability. The liability remains recorded until the earlier of redemption, escheatment, or 60 months. It is the Company's historical experience that the likelihood of redemption after 60 months is remote.

The Company has a private-label credit card agreement with HSBC for which the Company received an upfront program fee in addition to a percentage of net credit card sales. The percentage of net credit card sales associated with the Company's private-label credit card program are recognized as actual net private-label credit card sales occur. Net credit card sales represent gross credit card sales less returns and chargebacks. The prepaid program fee is amortized on a straight-line basis over the life of the Credit Card Program Agreement with HSBC.

The Company records an allowance for estimated sales returns in the period that the related sale occurs. These estimates are based primarily on historical sales returns. If the historical data used to calculate these estimates does not properly reflect future returns, adjustments to the allowance for estimated sales returns may be necessary.

## Inventory Valuation

Merchandise inventory, which consists of merchandise held for resale, is valued at the lower of LIFO (last-in, first-out) cost or market using the retail inventory method ("RIM") of accounting. Inherent in the RIM calculation are various judgments and estimates including, among others, merchandise markon, markups, markdowns and shrinkage, which significantly impact the ending inventory valuation at cost, as well as resulting gross margins. The Company applies various methodologies to ensure that the application of the RIM is consistent for all periods presented. Such methodologies include the development of consistent cost-to-retail ratios and the grouping of homogenous classes of merchandise. Estimated inventory shrinkage between physical inventory dates is based on historical experience. Should actual inventory shrinkage results differ from the Company's estimate, year-end revisions to inventory shrinkage expense recognized on an interim basis may be required.

Estimating the market value of the Company's merchandise inventory requires assumptions about future demand and market conditions. Such estimates are based on actual and forecasted sales trends, current inventory levels and aging information by merchandise categories. The Company records markdowns to value merchandise inventories at net realizable value. If forecasted sales are not achieved, or if other indicators of impairment are present, additional markdowns may be needed in future periods to clear excess or slow-moving merchandise, which may result in lower gross margins.

## Impairment of Long-Lived Assets

The Company's long-lived assets consist primarily of property and equipment, goodwill, leasehold interests and other long-term assets. Long-lived assets, including intangible assets other than goodwill, are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value of an asset may not be recoverable. The Company performs an evaluation of whether an impairment charge should be recorded whenever a store experiences unfavorable operating performance. A store's assets are evaluated for impairment by comparing its estimated undiscounted cash flows over its estimated remaining lease term to its carrying value. If the cash flows are not sufficient to recover the carrying value, a loss equal to the difference between the carrying value and the estimated fair value of the asset is recognized. Estimates of future cash flows are based on a variety of factors, including historical experience in similar locations, changes in merchandising, promotional or operating strategy that may affect the profitability of a particular location, knowledge of the market area and in some cases, expected sale proceeds or

sublease income, and independent appraisals. Goodwill and intangible assets having indefinite lives are not being amortized to earnings, but instead are subject to periodic testing for impairment. Goodwill and other intangible assets of a reporting unit are tested for impairment on an annual basis and more frequently if certain indicators are encountered. The Company has three geographical regions that it considers reporting units and operating segments, as the Company manages operations based on these regions. Various uncertainties, including but not limited to changes in consumer preferences, increased competition or a general deterioration in economic conditions could adversely impact the expected cash flows to be generated by an asset or group of assets. If actual performance or fair value estimates for store locations are less favorable than management's projections, future asset

impairment charges may be necessary. Similar procedures are used when analyzing other corporate assets for impairment. The Company did not impair any assets in fiscal 2007 as all the impairment tests were performed and no impairment was indicated.

#### Income Taxes

The carrying value of the Company's net deferred tax assets assumes that the Company will be able to generate sufficient future taxable income to realize the value of these assets. In determining the appropriate valuation allowance, management considers all available evidence for the deferred tax assets, including tax credits, net operating loss and capital loss carryforwards that would likely expire prior to their utilization. The Company has established valuation allowances that relate primarily to certain state tax credit carryforwards the realization of which is uncertain. Although these credits do not expire, the utilization is extremely limited and is available only to the extent the Company generates sufficient taxable income apportionable to the respective location. The Company has historically generated the credits at a substantially more rapid rate than it has been able to utilize them. The resulting utilization period is, therefore, unusually long. Although the Company has had, prior to the fiscal 2007 loss, recent profitability, there can be no certainty that the Company will continue to generate sufficient taxable income apportioned to specific locations for an indefinite period of time to fully utilize the state tax credit carryforwards, especially given the cyclical nature of the Company's business. Further, there is no certainty that the Company will operate in these specific locations for an extended period. To the extent that the Company no longer operates within these locations, the tax credits cannot be utilized. The Company considers it appropriate to release this valuation allowance after at least three years of continued operating profits, limited to the projected utilization of the state tax credits based on assumed operation in the specific locations of not more than ten years. In addition, the Company has generated certain capital losses for which there is currently no carryback opportunity available. Based on the Company's current operating strategy it appears more likely than not that there will be no opportunity available during the remaining carryforward period to generate offsetting capital gains. Accordingly the Company considers it appropriate to establish a valuation allowance against such carryforwards. Management believes it is more likely than not that the Company will generate sufficient future taxable income in the appropriate carryforward periods to realize the benefit of its remaining net deferred tax assets. However, if the available evidence were to change in the future, an adjustment to the valuation allowance may be required, resulting in additional income tax expense or benefit.

In June 2006, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued Financial Interpretation No. (FIN) 48, "Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes," which clarifies the accounting for uncertainty in income taxes recognized in an enterprise's financial statements in accordance with FASB Statement No. 109, "Accounting for Income Taxes." The interpretation prescribes a "more likely than not" recognition threshold and measurement attribute for the financial statement recognition and measurement of a tax position taken or expected to be taken in a tax return. FIN 48 applies to all tax positions related to income taxes subject to SFAS 109 and creates a single model to address accounting for uncertainty in tax positions. FIN 48 requires that tax positions accounted for under SFAS 109 be evaluated for recognition based solely on technical merits and the resulting tax benefits be measured using a cumulative probability assessment and the Company's plan for settlement. The Company adopted FIN 48 effective February 4, 2007. The adoption of FIN 48 did not have a material effect on the Company's consolidated financial position or results of operations (see Note 10 to the Financial Statements).

## Results of Operations

The following table sets forth for the periods indicated certain items from the Company's Statements of Operations, expressed as a percent of net sales. The two stores closed in fiscal 2007 were recorded as continuing operation. The Company has reclassified the results of operations of certain stores closed in fiscal 2006 to discontinued operations in fiscal 2006 and 2005.

	Fiscal Years		
	2007	2006	2005
Net sales	100.0 %	100.0 %	100.0 %
Net credit revenues	0.8	0.4	0.5
Net leased department revenues	0.5	0.5	0.5
<b>Total revenues</b>	<b>101.3</b>	<b>100.9</b>	<b>101.0</b>
Costs and expenses:			
Cost of sales	67.0	65.6	65.2
Selling, general and administrative expenses	33.3	31.2	30.8
Depreciation and amortization	2.4	2.2	2.0
Gain on sale of aircraft	-	(0.1)	-
Loss on disposal of assets	0.1	-	-
VEBA litigation	-	-	0.3
New store opening costs	0.1	-	0.1
<b>Total costs and expenses</b>	<b>102.9</b>	<b>98.9</b>	<b>98.4</b>
Operating income (loss)	(1.6)	2.0	2.6
Other (income) expense:			
Interest expense	1.7	1.5	1.4
Miscellaneous income	(0.1)	(0.2)	(0.2)
	1.6	1.3	1.2
Income (loss) before income taxes	(3.2)	0.7	1.4
Income tax expense (benefit)	(1.2)	0.2	0.5
Income (loss) from continuing operations	(2.0)	0.5	0.9
Discontinued operations:			
Loss from operation of closed stores	-	(0.2)	(0.2)
Income tax benefit	-	0.1	0.1
Loss on discontinued operations	-	(0.1)	(0.1)
Net income (loss)	(2.0)%	0.4 %	0.8 %





## Fiscal 2007 Compared to Fiscal 2006

### Net Sales

Net sales from continuing operations decreased by approximately \$52.4 million, or 7.7%, to \$628.6 million in the 52-week fiscal 2007 as compared to \$681.0 million in the 53-week fiscal 2006. Total sales for fiscal 2007 excluding the additional week in fiscal 2006 decreased 6.6%. Same store sales for the comparable 52-week fiscal year period decreased 5.1% from fiscal 2006. The fiscal year 2007 sales decrease is primarily attributable to the weak economic environment driven by the mortgage banking crisis and the high price of gasoline, with the greatest impact in the Company's California locations which produce 80% of sales volume. In the Company's Pacific Northwest locations, store-for-store sales increased over fiscal 2006.

The best performing merchandise categories of fiscal 2007, as compared to the comparable 52 week fiscal 2006, were women's accessories such as handbags, cold weather, and fashion accessories; plus size apparel grew by 5% driven by the addition of GW (Gottschalks Women's) Attitude for the junior plus size customer; and sales in dresses grew by 5% in both misses' and juniors'. Sales in home departments continued to erode with comparable 52 week sales in furniture down 13% and textiles down 18%, to the respective fiscal 2006 sales.

The Company operated 59 department stores and 4 specialty stores as of the end of fiscal 2007 as compared to 60 department stores and 5 specialty stores as of the end of fiscal 2006. As described more fully in Note 9 to the accompanying financial statements, during fiscal 2007 the Company closed 2 stores, 1 of which was underperforming, and opened 1 new store in Elk Grove, California.

### Net Credit Revenues

As described more fully in Note 2 to the accompanying financial statements, in January 2003, pursuant to the terms of a Purchase and Sale Agreement, the Company sold its private label credit card accounts and accounts receivable to HSBC. In connection with the sale, the Company entered into a Credit Card Program Agreement (the "CCA"). The CCA provides that the Company will be paid a percentage of Net Cardholder Charges and a percentage of Other Revenue (each as defined in the CCA). All amounts received under the CCA, including amortization of prepaid program revenue, are reflected in net credit revenues. The CCA had an initial term of five (5) years expiring January 31, 2008 and was cancelable earlier by either party under certain circumstances. On February 4, 2007, the Company and HSBC entered into a new Credit Card Program Agreement which has a term of six (6) years and is cancelable by either party under certain circumstances. The new Credit Card Program Agreement provides the Company will be paid a percentage of Net Credit Card Sales and a percentage of Other Revenue (each as defined in the CCA). In addition, the Company is guaranteed a percentage of net credit card sales (as defined in the CCA) will be used by HSBC to fund marketing programs.

Net credit revenues related to the program in fiscal 2007 was \$4.9 million in fiscal 2007 as compared to \$3.1 million in fiscal 2006, an increase of 57.7%. As a percent of net sales, net credit revenues were 0.8% of net sales in fiscal 2007 and 0.4% of net sales in fiscal 2006. This increase was attributable to enhanced revenue sharing under the new agreement and a higher credit sales to total sales penetration rate compared to fiscal 2006, but was somewhat offset by lower credit sales year over year.

### Net Leased Department Revenues

Net rental income generated by the Company's various leased departments was \$3.0 million in fiscal 2007, compared to \$3.4 million in fiscal 2006. Leased department sales are presented net of the related costs for financial reporting purposes. Sales generated in the Company's leased departments, consisting primarily of fine jewelry departments and beauty salons, totaled \$21.0 million in fiscal 2007 as compared to \$23.9 million in fiscal 2006.

Cost of Sales

Cost of sales from continuing operations, which includes costs associated with the buying, handling and distribution of merchandise, decreased by approximately \$25.7 million to \$420.9 million in fiscal 2007 as compared to \$446.6 million in fiscal 2006, a decrease of 5.8%. The decrease is primarily due to the decrease in sales volume. The Company's gross margin percentage in fiscal 2007 was 33.0% compared to 34.4% in fiscal 2006. The 1.4% decrease was primarily due to increased promotional discounts in all merchandise areas in a very soft and competitive retail environment.

### Selling, General and Administrative Expenses

Selling, general and administrative expenses from continuing operations decreased approximately \$2.8 million, or 1.3%, to \$209.6 million in fiscal 2007 as compared to \$212.4 million in fiscal 2006. As a percentage of net sales, selling, general and administrative expenses increased 2.1% to 33.3% in fiscal 2007 as compared to 31.2% in fiscal 2006. The rate increase is primarily attributable to increases in selling payroll costs which were somewhat offset by reduced workers' compensation expense and a non-recurring \$1.1 million increase in the vacation pay reserve in fiscal year 2006 to comply with the VEBA litigation settlement. In addition, higher outside services and increased professional fees, primarily due to legal and other fees of \$0.6 million incurred during the strategic review process, contributed to the increase in selling, general and administrative expenses in 2007. Net advertising spending rate has also increased relative to net sales owing to efforts to attract more customers in a slow economy.

### Depreciation and Amortization

Depreciation and amortization expense, which includes the net amortization (accretion) of intangible assets other than goodwill, decreased by approximately \$0.1 million or 0.7%, to \$15.2 million in fiscal 2007 as compared to \$15.3 million in fiscal 2006. As a percent of net sales, depreciation and amortization expense was 2.4% in fiscal 2007 and 2.2% in fiscal 2006. The dollar decrease is a result of merchandising software becoming fully depreciated in June 2007, off-set by the depreciation of capital additions related to the Company's new stores and major remodel projects at certain existing stores. The Company also made substantial upgrades to its planning and allocations and point of sale systems, which were placed in service at various dates during the end of fiscal 2006 and beginning of 2007, respectively.

### Gain on Sale of Aircraft

The Company sold a corporate aircraft on June 30, 2006 for \$1,037,000 (net of selling costs) that resulted in a gain of \$946,000. The gain is reflected in operating income as the aircraft was reported as an operating asset.

### **VEBA Litigation**

The Company accrued an additional \$60,000 in fiscal 2006 related to a reserve for settlement of a class action complaint alleging violation of California law regarding payment of accrued vacation upon termination of employment. The Company had accrued \$1.8 million in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2005 for estimated legal fees and costs. The Company believed settlement of this matter was in its best interests and entered into a memorandum of understanding for class settlement, which was given final court approval in September 2006. All payments were made in December 2006 and final accounting for actual expenses took place in fiscal 2007.

### New Store Opening Costs

New store opening costs, which are expensed as incurred, typically include costs such as payroll and fringe benefits for store associates, store rents, temporary storage, utilities, travel, grand opening advertising, credit solicitation and other costs incurred prior to the opening of a store. The Company recognized new store opening costs totaling \$0.5 million in connection with the opening of a new store in Elk Grove, California, which opened November 7, 2007. In fiscal 2006, the Company recognized \$0.4 million in new store opening costs related to the opening of a new store in Eugene, Oregon.

### Interest Expense

Interest expense, which includes the amortization of deferred financing costs, increased by approximately \$0.7 million to \$10.8 million in fiscal 2007 compared to \$10.1 million in fiscal 2006, an increase of 7.4%. As a percent of net sales, interest expense increased to 1.7% in fiscal 2007 as compared to 1.5% in fiscal 2006. These increases are primarily due to a \$0.6 million unfavorable fair value adjustment on the Company's \$25 million notional amount

interest swap compared to a \$0.2 million favorable fair value adjustment in fiscal year 2006. Increased borrowings under the Company's GE revolving line of credit were offset by declining interest rates. The weighted average interest rate applicable to the revolving credit facility was 6.9% in fiscal 2007 (5.9% at February 2, 2008) as compared to 7.1% in fiscal 2006.

## Miscellaneous Income

Miscellaneous income, which consists of income from the Company's investment in a partnership and other miscellaneous non-operating income, decreased by approximately \$0.9 million to \$0.5 million in fiscal 2007 as compared to \$1.4 million in fiscal 2006. Miscellaneous income does not include any material offsetting expense items. As a percent of net sales, miscellaneous income was 0.1% in fiscal 2007 and 0.2% in fiscal 2006.

## Income Taxes

The Company's effective tax rate for continuing operations is 39.1% in fiscal 2007 as compared to 32.2% in fiscal 2006. Including the tax benefit reported in discontinued operations in fiscal 2006, the Company's effective tax rate is 39.1% in fiscal 2007 as compared to 31.6% in fiscal 2006. In fiscal 2007, the Company increased its valuation allowance associated with certain tax credit carryforwards that the Company determined were not more likely than not to be realized, attributable primarily to a reduction in the Company's assessment of future income. In fiscal 2006, the Company benefited from the release of a portion of its valuation allowance associated with certain tax credit carryforwards that the Company determined were more likely than not to be realized. In addition, the increase in effective tax rate is also due to the impact of tax credits. The tax benefit on the fiscal year 2007 loss is increased by tax credits and the tax expense on fiscal year 2006 income is reduced by tax credits.

## Income (Loss) From Continuing Operations

As a result of the foregoing, the Company reported a loss from continuing operations of \$12.4 million, or \$0.91 per diluted share, in fiscal 2007 as compared to income of \$3.4 million, or \$0.25 per diluted share, in fiscal 2006.

## Discontinued Operations

The Company closed one underperforming store in the Seattle metro-area during the third quarter of fiscal 2006 and one underperforming store in the Seattle/Tacoma market during the first quarter of fiscal 2006. These closures are reported as discontinued operations due to the Company's exit from the respective market areas. The loss from operations of discontinued stores includes only revenues generated from, and expenses directly associated with, the operations of such stores and consists of the following:

(In thousands)	Fiscal Years	
	2007	2006
Net sales from closed stores	\$ -	\$ 2,921
Cost of sales	-	2,421
Selling, general and administrative expenses	-	1,533
Depreciation and amortization	-	69
Total costs and expenses	-	4,023
Loss from operations of closed stores	\$ -	\$ (1,102)

The loss on store closures of \$98,000 includes a net gain on the sale of the building associated with the store closed during the first quarter of fiscal 2006 of approximately \$147,000, offset by a loss on disposal of assets of \$139,000 related to the store closed during the third quarter of fiscal 2006, and store closure costs of approximately \$106,000 related to both stores closed in fiscal 2006, primarily consisting of severance and other incremental costs associated with the store closings.

In addition, the Company closed one store in Wasilla, Alaska during the first quarter of fiscal 2007, one store in Tacoma, Washington during the third quarter of fiscal 2007, and closed one store in Danville, California and one store in Moscow, Idaho during the third quarter and fourth quarter of fiscal 2006. These closures are not reported as discontinued operations due to the shift of revenues to other stores in the respective markets.

Certain of the Company's stores may perform below expectations from time to time. In the event the Company is unable to improve the operating performance of such underperforming stores, the Company may consider the sale, sublease or closure of those stores in the future.

#### Net Income (Loss)

As a result of the foregoing, the Company reported net loss of \$12.4 million in fiscal 2007 as compared to net income of \$2.6 million in fiscal 2006. On a per diluted share basis net loss was \$0.91 per share in fiscal 2007 compared to net income of \$0.19 per share in fiscal 2006.

#### Fiscal 2006 Compared to Fiscal 2005

##### Net Sales

Net sales from continuing operations increased by approximately \$15.5 million, or 2.3%, to \$681.0 million in fiscal 2006 as compared to \$665.5 million in fiscal 2005. The fiscal 2006 sales increase is primarily attributable to the opening of the Company's 120,876 square foot store in Eugene, Oregon. Promotional activity helped drive the sales increases through a continuing soft general economic environment and continuing competitive pressures in much of the Company's market areas. The Company also achieved a 0.6% comparable store sales increase in fiscal 2006 driven predominantly by sales increases in the Company's more fashion forward merchandise categories. Comparable store sales includes sales for stores open for the full period in both years. However, reflecting the effects of the opening of the River Park store in fiscal 2005 on other Fresno area stores, such stores have been excluded from the Company's comparable store base. The Company's 2006 fiscal year consisted of 53 weeks as compared to its 2005 fiscal year, which consisted of 52 weeks. Total sales for fiscal 2006 excluding the additional week decreased 0.3% to \$675.2 million. Same store sales for the comparable 52-week fiscal year period increased 0.6% from fiscal 2005.

The Company operated 60 department stores and 5 specialty stores as of the end of fiscal 2006 as compared to 63 department stores and 6 specialty stores as of the end of fiscal 2005. As described more fully in Note 9 to the accompanying financial statements, during fiscal 2006 the Company closed 4 stores, 2 of which were underperforming, and opened 1 new store in Eugene, Oregon.

##### Net Credit Revenues

As described more fully in Note 2 to the accompanying financial statements, in January 2003, pursuant to the terms of a Purchase and Sale Agreement, the Company sold its private label credit card accounts and accounts receivable to HSBC. In connection with the sale, the Company entered into a Credit Card Program Agreement (the "CCA"). The CCA provides that the Company will be paid a percentage of Net Cardholder Charges and a percentage of Other Revenue (each as defined in the CCA). All amounts received under the CCA, including amortization of prepaid program revenue, are reflected in net credit revenues. The CCA had an initial term of five (5) years expiring January 31, 2008 and was cancelable earlier by either party under certain circumstances. On February 4, 2007, the Company and HSBC entered into a new Credit Card Program Agreement which has a term of six (6) years and is cancelable by either party under certain circumstances. The new Credit Card Program Agreement provides the Company will be paid a percentage of Net Credit Card Sales and a percentage of Other Revenue (each as defined in the CCA). In addition, the Company is guaranteed a percentage of net credit card sales (as defined in the CCA) will be used by HSBC to fund marketing programs.

Net credit revenues related to the program in fiscal 2006 were essentially even with fiscal 2005 at \$3.1 million. As a percent of net sales, net credit revenues were 0.4% of net sales in fiscal 2006 and 0.5% of net sales in fiscal 2005.

##### Net Leased Department Revenues

Net rental income generated by the Company's various leased departments was \$3.4 million in fiscal 2006, compared to \$3.5 million in fiscal 2005. Leased department sales are presented net of the related costs for financial reporting purposes. Sales generated in the Company's leased departments, consisting primarily of fine jewelry departments and beauty salons, totaled \$23.9 million in fiscal 2006 as compared to \$24.4 million in fiscal 2005.



### Cost of Sales

Cost of sales from continuing operations, which includes costs associated with the buying, handling and distribution of merchandise, increased by approximately \$12.2 million to \$446.6 million in fiscal 2006 as compared to \$434.4 million in fiscal 2005, an increase of 2.8%. The increase is primarily due to the increase in sales volume. The Company's gross margin percentage in fiscal 2006 was 34.4% compared to 34.7% in fiscal 2005.

### Selling, General and Administrative Expenses

Selling, general and administrative expenses from continuing operations increased approximately \$7.4 million, or 3.6%, to \$212.4 million in fiscal 2006 as compared to \$204.9 million in fiscal 2005. As a percentage of net sales, selling, general and administrative expenses increased 0.4% to 31.2% in fiscal 2006 as compared to 30.8% in fiscal 2005. The increase is primarily attributable to increases in payroll costs and fringe benefits, including a non-recurring \$1.1 million increase in the vacation reserve to comply with the VEBA litigation settlement, and \$0.8 million in stock-based compensation. The vacation expense increase was offset by decreases in worker's compensation and health insurance expenses. In addition, higher energy costs, increased professional fees and higher freight surcharges contributed to the increase in selling, general and administrative expenses. Gross advertising spending has also increased relative to the increase in net sales. These increases are partially offset by \$0.4 million received as a member of a class of a settled lawsuit against VISA U.S.A. Inc. and MasterCard International Incorporated. The Company expects to see a continuation of higher fuel and energy costs for the foreseeable future.

### Depreciation and Amortization

Depreciation and amortization expense, which includes the net amortization (accretion) of intangible assets other than goodwill, increased by approximately \$2.0 million, or 15.4%, to \$15.3 million in fiscal 2006 as compared to \$13.2 million in fiscal 2005. As a percent of net sales, depreciation and amortization expense was 2.2% in fiscal 2006 and 2.0% in fiscal 2005. This increase includes \$0.2 million related to accelerated depreciation of assets due to the closing of the Danville, California store in August 2006. The dollar increase is also a result of capital additions related to the Company's new store, major remodel projects at certain existing stores and upgrades to the planning and allocation and point of sale systems.

### Gain on Sale of Aircraft

The Company sold a corporate aircraft on June 30, 2006 for \$1,037,000 (net of selling costs) that resulted in a gain of \$946,000. The gain is reflected in operating income as the aircraft was reported as an operating asset.

### **VEBA Litigation**

The VEBA litigation costs represent a reserve for settlement of a class action complaint alleging violation of California law regarding payment of accrued vacation upon termination of employment. The Company believed settlement of this matter was in its best interests and entered into a memorandum of understanding for class settlement, which was given final court approval in September 2006. The Company accrued \$1.8 million in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2005 for estimated legal fees and costs and an additional \$60,000 in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2006. All payments were made in December 2006 and final accounting for actual expenses took place in fiscal 2007.

### New Store Opening Costs

New store opening costs, which are expensed as incurred, typically include costs such as payroll and fringe benefits for store associates, store rents, temporary storage, utilities, travel, grand opening advertising, credit solicitation and other costs incurred prior to the opening of a store. The Company recognized new store opening costs totaling \$0.4 million in connection with the opening of a new store in Eugene, Oregon, which opened August 31, 2006. In fiscal 2005, the Company recognized \$0.7 million in new store opening costs related to the opening of new stores in each of

Fresno, California and Albany, Oregon, and the reopening of the Pocatello, Idaho store.

## Interest Expense

Interest expense, which includes the amortization of deferred financing costs, increased by approximately \$0.8 million to \$10.1 million in fiscal 2006 compared to \$9.2 million in fiscal 2005, an increase of 8.8%. As a percent of net sales, interest expense increased to 1.5% in fiscal 2006 as compared to 1.4% in fiscal 2005. These increases are primarily due to continued increases in interest rates charged on the Company's variable rate debt and include a charge of \$0.2 million related to the early termination of the Company's 9.39% mortgages. These increases were partially offset by a \$0.2 million favorable fair value adjustment on the Company's \$25 million notional amount interest swap. The Company anticipates that its interest rate swap will continue to provide protection against rising interest rates for the near term. The weighted average interest rate applicable to the revolving credit facility was 7.1% in fiscal 2006 (7.3% at February 2, 2008) as compared to 6.0% in fiscal 2005. During the third quarter of fiscal 2005, due to the Company's involvement in the construction of the building at its River Park store and other factors, the Company recorded \$10.2 million in buildings and equipment under capital leases and \$6.0 million in capital lease obligations associated with landlord reimbursements received. Accordingly, fiscal 2006 also includes interest charges of \$0.9 million, compared to \$0.4 million in fiscal 2005, related to the accounting for rental payments as repayment of the related construction reimbursements utilizing the effective interest method.

## Miscellaneous Income

Miscellaneous income, which consists of the amortization of long-term deferred credits recorded upon receipt of donated land, income from the Company's investment in a partnership, and other miscellaneous non-operating income decreased by approximately \$0.1 million to \$1.4 million in fiscal 2006 as compared to \$1.5 million in fiscal 2005. Miscellaneous income does not include any material offsetting expense items. As a percent of net sales, miscellaneous income was 0.2% in fiscal 2006 and in fiscal 2005.

## Income Taxes

The Company's effective tax rate for continuing operations is 32.2% in fiscal 2006 as compared to 33.6% in fiscal 2005. Including the tax benefit reported in discontinued operations, the Company's effective tax rate is 31.6% in fiscal 2006 as compared to 33.5% in fiscal 2005. In both fiscal 2006 and fiscal 2005, the Company benefited from the release of a portion of its valuation allowance associated with certain tax credit carryforwards that the Company determined were more likely than not to be realized.

## Income From Continuing Operations

As a result of the foregoing, the Company reported income from continuing operations of \$3.4 million, or \$0.25 per diluted share, in fiscal 2006 as compared to \$6.1 million, or \$0.45 per diluted share, in fiscal 2005.

## Discontinued Operations

The Company closed one underperforming store in the Seattle metro-area during the third quarter of fiscal 2006 and one underperforming store in the Seattle/Tacoma market during the first quarter of fiscal 2006. During fiscal 2005, the Company closed two underperforming stores in the Seattle/Tacoma market. These closures are reported as discontinued operations due to the Company's exit from the respective market areas. The loss from operations of discontinued stores includes only revenues generated from, and expenses directly associated with, the operations of such stores and consists of the following:

(In thousands)	Fiscal Years	
	2006	2005

Edgar Filing: GOTTSCHALKS INC - Form 10-K

Net sales from closed stores	\$	2,921	\$	11,480
Cost of sales		2,421		7,442
Selling, general and administrative expenses		1,533		5,235
Depreciation and amortization		69		412
		<u>4,023</u>		<u>13,089</u>
Total costs and expenses		4,023		13,089
Loss from operations of closed stores	\$	(1,102)	\$	(1,609)

The loss on store closures of \$98,000 includes a net gain on the sale of the building associated with the store closed during the first quarter of fiscal 2006 of approximately \$147,000, offset by a loss on disposal of assets of \$139,000 related to the store closed during the third quarter of fiscal 2006, and store closure costs of approximately \$106,000 related to both stores closed in fiscal 2006, primarily consisting of severance and other incremental costs associated with the store closings.

In addition, the Company closed one store in Danville, California and one store in Moscow, Idaho during the third quarter and fourth quarter of fiscal 2006. The Company also closed one store in Fresno, California during the first quarter of fiscal 2005. These closures are not reported as discontinued operations due to the shift of revenues to other stores in the respective markets. The Company has a written agreement with the landlord to close the Wasilla, Alaska store in April 2007. This closure is not considered a discontinued operation as the Company has remaining stores in the market area.

Certain of the Company's stores may perform below expectations from time to time. In the event the Company is unable to improve the operating performance of such underperforming stores, the Company may consider the sale, sublease or closure of those stores in the future.

#### Net Income

As a result of the foregoing, the Company reported net income of \$2.6 million in fiscal 2006 as compared to \$5.2 million in fiscal 2005. On a per diluted share basis net income was \$0.19 per share in fiscal 2006 compared to \$0.38 per share in and fiscal 2005.

#### Liquidity and Capital Resources

The Company's working capital requirements are currently met through a combination of cash provided by operations, borrowings under its senior revolving credit facility, short-term trade and factor credit, and by proceeds from external financings.

In fiscal 2007, the Company generated positive cash flow from operations of \$11.0 million as compared to negative cash flow of \$4.8 million in fiscal 2006 and positive cash flow of \$19.6 million in fiscal 2005. The \$15.8 million increase in cash provided by operating activities in fiscal 2007 relative to fiscal 2006 was primarily due to the significant reductions of merchandise inventory which was somewhat offset by reductions in related accounts payables. The increase in cash provided was further offset by the net loss in fiscal 2007 compared to net income in fiscal 2006. Inventory decreased as a result of decreased sales and a planned reduction in inventory levels as compared to fiscal 2006. The Company does not plan any further reductions in inventory levels in fiscal 2008.

Net cash used in investing activities amounted to \$20.1 million, \$16.9 million, and \$21.9 million in fiscal 2007, 2006, and 2005 respectively. The net cash outflow in fiscal 2007 and fiscal 2005 increased from fiscal 2006 due to increased capital expenditures for store remodeling and new store construction (see "Uses of Liquidity"), partially offset in fiscal 2006 by the sale of the Silverdale, Washington store location and the sale of a corporate aircraft.

Net cash provided by financing activities was \$7.0 million in fiscal 2007 and primarily the result of increased borrowing on the Company's revolving credit facility to fund inventory purchases and capital expenditures, and somewhat offset by payments on long-term debt and repurchase of the Company's stock. Net cash provided by financing activities was \$22.4 million in fiscal 2006 and primarily the result of increased borrowing to fund inventory and capital expenditures and also the pay-off of the 9.39% mortgages on four of the Company's owned properties of approximately \$16.6 million. Net cash provided by financing activities of \$2.1 million in fiscal 2005 was primarily the result of the \$6.0 million landlord reimbursement, offset by repayment of long-term obligations.

#### Sources of Liquidity

New Senior Secured Credit Facility

The Company signed a second Amended and Restated Credit Agreement with General Electric Capital Corporation to refinance its existing credit facility on September 26, 2007. The new credit facility consists of a \$200 million senior secured revolving credit facility (including a \$20 million letter of credit sub-facility). Borrowings under the revolving credit facility are limited to the sum of (a) a specified percentage of eligible credit card receivables, (b) a

specified percentage of the net recovery value of eligible inventory, as determined by periodic valuation performed by an independent appraiser, and (c) 65% of the fair market value of the Company's real estate. Such borrowings are further limited by a requirement to maintain a minimum of \$15 million of excess availability at all times, and other reserves. Substantially all of the Company's assets, including its merchandise inventories, are pledged under the credit facility.

As of February 2, 2008, outstanding borrowings under the new credit facility totaled \$93.9 million, and availability for additional borrowings under the credit facility, after the deduction of the minimum availability requirement and other reserves, was \$40.2 million. Interest charged on amounts borrowed under the credit facility is at the prime rate, or at the Company's option, at the applicable LIBOR rate plus 1.25% per annum. In addition, the Company pays an unused commitment fee equal to 0.20% per annum on the average unused daily balance of the credit facility. The interest rate is adjusted upwards or downwards on a quarterly basis based on a pricing matrix, which is tied to the Company's daily average excess availability for the preceding fiscal quarter (as defined in the agreement). Under the pricing matrix, the applicable interest rate could range from a rate as low as prime or LIBOR plus 1.25%, to as high as prime plus 0.5%, or LIBOR plus 2.5%.

The new credit facility contains restrictive financial and operating covenants, including the requirement to maintain a fixed charge coverage ratio of 1:1 (as defined in the agreement) if the Company's excess borrowing availability is below \$20 million. As of February 2, 2008, the Company was in compliance with all restrictive financial covenants applicable to the credit facility. The agreement has a five year term expiring September 26, 2012.

The Company is exposed to market risk associated with changes in interest rates. To provide some protection against potential rate increases associated with its variable-rate facilities, the Company has entered into a derivative financial transaction in the form of an interest rate swap. This interest rate swap, used to hedge a portion of the underlying credit facility, matures in February 2009.

#### Old Senior Revolving Credit Facility

From January 26, 2006 to September 26, 2007, the credit facility, as amended on January 26, 2006, consisted of a revolving credit facility of up to \$172 million (including a \$20 million letter of credit sub-facility) and a fully funded term loan of \$9 million. Borrowings under the revolving credit facility, as amended, were limited to the sum of (a) a specified percentage of eligible credit card receivables, (b) the lesser of specified percentages of (i) the cost of eligible inventory and (ii) the net recovery value of the inventory, as determined by periodic valuation performed by an independent appraiser, and (c) the lesser of (i) up to 60% of the fair market value of the designated properties and (ii) \$21.6 million. Such borrowings were further limited by a requirement to maintain a minimum of \$5 million of excess availability at all times, and other reserves that were in effect. Substantially all of the Company's assets, including its merchandise inventories, were pledged under the credit facility.

On September 26, 2007, interest charged on amounts borrowed under the revolving portion of the credit facility were at the prime rate, or at the Company's option, at the applicable LIBOR rate plus 1.25% per annum, and interest charged on the term loan was a fixed rate of 6.6% per annum. In addition, the Company paid an unused commitment fee equal to 0.375% per annum on the average unused daily balance of the revolving portion of the credit facility. The interest rate applicable to the revolving portion of the credit facility was adjusted upwards or downwards on a quarterly basis based on a pricing matrix which was tied to the Company's daily average excess availability for the preceding fiscal quarter (as defined in the agreement). Under the pricing matrix, the applicable interest rate could have ranged from a rate as low as prime or LIBOR plus 1.25%, to as high as prime plus 0.5%, or LIBOR plus 2.5%.

The credit facility, as amended, contained restrictive financial and operating covenants, including the requirement to maintain a fixed charge coverage ratio of 1:1 (as defined in the agreement) if the Company's excess borrowing availability was below \$15 million.

Transactions with Affiliate

El Corte Ingles ("ECI") of Spain, and Harris, a wholly owned subsidiary of ECI, became affiliates of the Company in fiscal 1998 when the Company acquired substantially all of the assets and business of Harris. The Company issued a Subordinated Note to Harris, in the principal amount of \$22,179,000 as partial consideration for the Harris acquisition (the "Original Note"). The Original Note bore interest at a fixed rate of 8%. On December 7, 2004 a new Subordinated Note due May 30, 2009 superseded the Original Note. The new Subordinated Note bears interest at a fixed rate of 8% payable semi-annually and provides for principal payments of up to \$8.0 million prior to its maturity. Such payments are subject to certain liquidity restrictions under the revolving credit facility. The



Company made principal payments of \$1.0 million each upon execution of the new Subordinated Note, on February 20, 2005, February 20, 2006, February 20, 2007, as scheduled. A principal payment of \$2.0 million was made subsequent to fiscal year-end on February 20, 2008 and a principal payment of \$2.0 million is scheduled for February 20, 2009, with the balance due at maturity subject to the payment in full of the revolving credit facility.

#### Trade Credit

The success of the Company's business is dependent in part upon the adequacy of trade credit offered by key factors and vendors, the vendors' ability and willingness to sell its products at favorable prices and terms, and the willingness of vendors to ship merchandise on a timely basis. The Company has been able to purchase adequate levels of merchandise to support its operations and expects the level of trade credit to be sufficient to support its operations in the foreseeable future.

#### Other Financings

On February 14, 2005, the Company amended and extended the financing of its ownership interest in the partnership that owns the Company's corporate headquarters building. The related note payable of \$3.7 million, which originally provided for interest only payments at a variable rate of interest of prime plus 1.5% per annum, and was due in full upon maturity on May 24, 2005, has been modified to a fully amortizing note bearing interest at a fixed rate of 7.50% per annum and maturing on February 24, 2010. There is no prepayment penalty associated with the note.

The Company may consider various other sources of liquidity in the future, including but not limited to the issuance of additional securities that might have a dilutive effect on existing shareholders or incurring additional indebtedness which would increase the Company's leverage.

#### Uses of Liquidity

The Company's primary uses of liquidity are for working capital, debt service requirements, and capital expenditures. Capital expenditures in fiscal 2007, of \$20.7 million, were primarily related to the construction and fixturing of the Company's new Elk Grove store and renovation and refixturing of certain existing locations, and to certain information system enhancements.

As of February 2, 2008, the Company had issued a total of \$1.5 million of standby letters of credit and documentary letters of credit totaling \$1.3 million. The standby letters of credit were issued to provide collateral for workers' compensation insurance policies. Management believes that the likelihood of any draws under the workers' compensation standby letters of credit is remote. Documentary letters of credit are issued in the ordinary course of business to facilitate the purchase of merchandise from overseas suppliers. The supplier draws against the documentary letter of credit upon delivery of the merchandise.

#### Contractual Obligations

The following tables set forth certain information concerning the Company's debt obligations and commitments to make future payments under contracts, such as debt and lease agreements, and under contingent commitments.

#### Contractual Obligations:

**Payments due by period (1)**  
(In thousands)

Fiscal 2008	Fiscal 2009	Fiscal 2010	Fiscal 2011	Fiscal 2012	There- after	Total

Edgar Filing: GOTTSCHALKS INC - Form 10-K

Long-term debt	\$ 1,275	\$ 1,317	\$ 575	\$ 539	\$ 576	\$ 1,067	\$ 5,349
Capitalized lease obligations	1,376	1,376	1,417	1,476	1,476	14,110	21,231
Subordinated note payable to affiliate	2,000	16,180	-	-	-	-	18,180
Non-cancelable operating leases	23,412	22,096	20,005	18,544	15,534	100,717	200,308
Purchase obligations (2)	944	624	239	74	52	144	2,077
Interest (3)	7,147	6,539	5,541	5,455	3,932	7,767	36,381
Total contractual cash obligations	\$ 36,154	\$ 48,132	\$ 27,777	\$ 26,088	\$ 21,570	\$ 123,805	\$ 283,526

**Amount of commitment expiration by period**  
(In thousands)

	<b>Fiscal 2008</b>	<b>Fiscal 2009</b>	<b>Fiscal 2010</b>	<b>Fiscal 2011</b>	<b>Fiscal 2012</b>	<b>There- after</b>	<b>Total</b>
Senior revolving credit facility (4)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 93,899	\$ -	\$ 93,899
Standby letters of credit	1,486	-	-	-	-	-	1,486
Documentary letters of credit	1,339	-	-	-	-	-	1,339
	<b>\$ 2,825</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 93,899</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 96,724</b>

(1) See Notes 5, 7 and 8 to the accompanying financial statements.

(2) Purchase obligations include agreements to purchase goods or services that are enforceable and legally binding and that specify all significant terms, including: fixed or minimum quantities to be purchased; fixed, minimum or variable price provisions; and the approximate timing of the transaction. Agreements that are cancelable without penalty have been excluded. Purchase obligations relate primarily to service and maintenance agreements and information technology contracts.

(3) Interest payments in future periods have been reflected based on debt levels and fixed interest rates as of fiscal year ended February 2, 2008. The rate on variable interest debt is reflected at the effective interest rate as of February 29, 2008. Interest on capital lease obligations is included in the total due under capital lease obligations.

(4) Represents outstanding borrowings under the Company's senior revolving credit facility as of February 2, 2008. The table presents that amount as due at September 26, 2012, the end of the commitment period for the facility.

In the fourth quarter of fiscal 2007, the Company signed a ground lease for a new store in Bend, Oregon. The Company plans to construct a 55,000 square foot store at a cost of \$6.8 million, including fixtures. The Company will own the building and anticipates that it will open in late fall 2008. This building will be financed through cash flow from operations and borrowings on the credit facility.

In the ordinary course of business, the Company enters into arrangements with vendors to purchase merchandise up to twelve months in advance of expected delivery. These purchase orders do not contain any significant termination payments or other penalties if cancelled.

The Company has approximately \$1.2 million of unrecognized tax benefits not included in the table above that have been recorded as liabilities in accordance with Financial Interpretation No. 48, and management is uncertain as to if, or when, such amounts may be settled. In addition, the Company has also recorded a liability for potential interest of approximately \$0.2 million, related to the unrecognized tax benefits.

Cash generated by operations, together with liquidity provided by the credit facility, and other financial resources are expected to adequately finance the Company's planned cash requirements for fiscal 2008.

#### New Accounting Pronouncements

In September 2006, the FASB issued SFAS No. 157, "Fair Value Measurements." SFAS 157 defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value and expands disclosures about fair value measurements. SFAS 157 applies under other accounting pronouncements that require or permit fair value measurement. SFAS 157 does not

require any new fair value measurement and the Company is currently evaluating the impact, if any, of SFAS 157 on its financial position, results of operations and cash flows. SFAS 157 requires prospective application for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007.

In February 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 159, "The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities," (SFAS 159). This statement permits entities to choose to measure many financial instruments and certain other items at fair value. The objective is to improve financial reporting by providing entities with the opportunity to reduce fluctuation in reported earnings caused by measuring related assets and liabilities differently without having to apply complex hedge accounting provisions. Most of the provisions of SFAS 159 apply only to entities that elect the fair value option. However, the amendment to FASB Statement No. 115, "Accounting for

Certain Investments in Debt and Equity Securities," applies to all entities with available-for-sale and trading securities. SFAS 159 is effective for the Company on February 3, 2008. The Company is currently evaluating the impact, if any, of SFAS 159 on its financial position, results of operations and cash flows.

In March 2008, the FASB issued SFAS No. 161, "Disclosures about Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities," (SFAS 161). This statement changes the disclosure requirements for derivative instruments and hedging activities. Entities are required to provide enhanced disclosures about how and why an entity uses derivative instruments, how derivative instruments and related hedged items are accounted for under SFAS No. 133 and its related interpretations, and how derivative instruments and related hedged items affect an entity's financial position, financial performance, and cash flows. SFAS 161 is effective for the Company on February 1, 2009. The Company

is currently evaluating the impact, if any, of SFAS 161 on its financial position, results of operations and cash flows.

### Inflation

Although inflation has not been a material factor in the Company's operations during the past several years, the Company has experienced increases in the costs of certain merchandise, salaries, employee benefits and other general and administrative costs, including utilities, supplies, and transportation costs. The Company is generally able to offset these increases by adjusting its selling prices or by modifying its operations. The Company's ability to adjust selling prices is limited by competitive pressures in its market areas.

The Company values its merchandise inventories at the lower of LIFO cost or market using the retail inventory method of accounting. Under the LIFO method, which is determined by using the department store price indices published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the cost of products sold reported in the financial statements approximates current costs and thus reduces the impact of inflation due to increasing costs on reported income. The valuation of the Company's merchandise inventories under the LIFO method is currently equal to that as determined by the first-in, first-out (FIFO) method of accounting.

### Seasonality

The Company's business, like that of most retailers, is subject to seasonal influences, with the major portion of net sales, gross profit and operating income realized during the Christmas selling months of November and December of each year, and, to a lesser extent, during the Easter and Back-to-School selling seasons. The Company's results may also vary from quarter to quarter as a result of, among other things, the timing and level of the Company's sales promotions, weather, fashion trends and the overall health of the economy, both nationally and in the Company's market areas. Working capital requirements also fluctuate during the year, increasing substantially prior to the Christmas selling season when the Company must carry significantly higher inventory levels.

Edgar Filing: GOTTSCHALKS INC - Form 10-K

The following table sets forth unaudited quarterly results of operations for fiscal 2007 and 2006 (in thousands, except per share data). The Company has reclassified the results of operations of certain stores closed in fiscal 2006 to discontinued operations for all periods presented.

**Results of Operations**

Quarter Ended	Fiscal 2007 (In thousands, except per share data)			
	May 5	August 4	November 3	February 2
Net sales from continuing operations	\$ 141,788	\$ 144,982	\$ 137,352	\$ 204,428
Gross profit	46,584	48,655	47,050	65,374
Income (loss) from continuing operations	(4,668)	(4,774)	(4,124)	1,133
Net income (loss)	(4,668)	(4,774)	(4,124)	1,133
Net income (loss) per common share:				
Basic				
Income (loss) from continuing operations	\$ (0.34)	\$ (0.35)	\$ (0.30)	\$ 0.08
Net income (loss)	\$ (0.34)	\$ (0.35)	\$ (0.30)	\$ 0.08
Diluted				
Income (loss) from continuing operations	\$ (0.34)	\$ (0.35)	\$ (0.30)	\$ 0.08
Net income (loss)	\$ (0.34)	\$ (0.35)	\$ (0.30)	\$ 0.08
Weighted-average number of common shares outstanding:				
Basic	13,606	13,682	13,684	13,432
Diluted	13,606	13,682	13,684	13,493

Quarter Ended	Fiscal 2006 (In thousands, except per share data)			
	April 29	July 29	October 28	February 3
Net sales from continuing operations	\$ 142,163	\$ 152,757	\$ 147,897	\$ 238,149
Gross profit	47,440	54,268	53,727	78,912
Income (loss) from continuing operations	(3,696)	600	(2,335)	8,872
Loss on discontinued operations, net of tax	(265)	(114)	(413)	-
Net income (loss)	(3,961)	486	(2,748)	8,872
Net income (loss) per common share:				
Basic				
Income (loss) from continuing operations	\$ (0.28)	\$ 0.04	\$ (0.17)	\$ 0.66
Loss on discontinued operations	\$ (0.02)	\$ -	\$ (0.03)	\$ -
Net income (loss)	\$ (0.30)	\$ 0.04	\$ (0.20)	\$ 0.66
Diluted				
Income (loss) from continuing operations	\$ (0.28)	\$ 0.04	\$ (0.17)	\$ 0.64
Loss on discontinued operations	\$ (0.02)	\$ -	\$ (0.03)	\$ -
Net income (loss)	\$ (0.30)	\$ 0.04	\$ (0.20)	\$ 0.64
Weighted-average number of common shares outstanding:				
Basic	13,371	13,399	13,423	13,514
Diluted	13,371	13,685	13,423	13,885

Item 7A. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

The Company is exposed to market risks in the normal course of business due to changes in interest rates on borrowings under its senior revolving credit facility. To provide some protection against potential rate increases associated with its variable-rate facilities, the Company entered into a derivative financial transaction in the form of an interest rate swap. The interest rate swap is used to hedge a portion of the underlying variable-rate facility. The Company currently holds a "variable-to-fixed" rate swap with a notional amount of \$25.0 million with one financial institution. The notional amount does not represent amounts exchanged by the parties; rather, it is used as the basis to calculate amounts due and to be received under the rate swap. Although the swap essentially provides for matched terms to its underlying, and effectively mitigates its variability, it currently does not qualify for hedge accounting under SFAS No. 133. Accordingly, changes in fair value of the derivative instrument are recorded in interest expense. During fiscal 2007 and 2006, the Company did not enter into or hold derivative financial instruments for trading purposes, nor does it engage in financial transactions for speculative or trading purposes. All contracts and purchase obligations are denominated in US dollars and accordingly the Company is not subject to foreign exchange rate risk.

As of February 2, 2008, borrowings subject to variable interest rates represented 78% of the Company's total outstanding borrowings. The interest payable on the Company's senior revolving credit facility is based on variable interest rates and is therefore affected by changes in market interest rates. An increase of 70 basis points on existing floating rate borrowings (a 10% change from the Company's weighted- average interest rate as of February 2, 2008) would reduce the Company's pre-tax income and cash flow by approximately \$0.6 million over a one year period. This 70 basis point increase in interest rates would not materially effect the fair value of the Company's fixed rate financial instruments. (See Note 1 to the accompanying financial statements.)

Item 8. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

The response to this item is set forth under Part IV, Item 15, included elsewhere herein.

Item 9. CHANGES IN AND DISAGREEMENTS WITH ACCOUNTANTS ON ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

None.

Item 9A. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

(a) Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures

The Company maintains "disclosure controls and procedures," as such term is defined in Rules 13a-14 and 15d-14 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), that are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed in the Company's reports, pursuant to the Exchange Act, is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the SEC's rules and forms, and that such information is accumulated and communicated to the Company's management, including its Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding the required disclosures. In designing and evaluating the disclosure controls and procedures, management recognized that any controls and procedures, no matter how well designed and operated, can provide only reasonable assurances of achieving the desired control objectives, and management necessarily was required to apply its judgment in evaluating the cost benefit relationship of possible controls and procedures.

The Company's Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer (its principal executive officer and principal financial officer, respectively), with the participation of the Company's management, have carried out an evaluation of the effectiveness of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures, as of February 2, 2008 and have concluded that such disclosure controls and procedures are effective at the reasonable assurance level.

(b) Management's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

The Company's management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of the Company's financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (i) pertain to the maintenance of records that in reasonable detail accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the Company; (ii) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit



preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of the Company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the Company; and (iii) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use or disposition of the Company's assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Management assessed the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of February 2, 2008, the end of the Company's fiscal year. Management based its assessment on criteria established in *Internal Control - Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission. Management's assessment included evaluation of such elements as the design and operating effectiveness of key financial reporting controls, process documentation, accounting policies, and the Company's overall control environment. Based on its assessment, management has concluded that the Company's internal control over financial reporting was effective as of the end of the fiscal year to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external reporting purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. The results of management's assessment were reviewed with the Audit Committee of the Company's Board of Directors.

BDO Seidman, LLP, the Company's independent registered public accounting firm, has issued a report on Company's internal control over financial reporting, that is included in Part IV Item 15(a)(1).

(c) Changes in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

During the fourth quarter of fiscal 2007, there were no changes in the Company's internal controls over financial reporting identified during the evaluation referred to above that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

(d) Certifications

The certifications of the Company's Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer required under Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act have been filed as Exhibits 31.1 and 31.2 to this report. Additionally, in fiscal 2007 the Company's Chief Executive Officer certified to the NYSE that he was not aware of any violation by the Company of the NYSE corporate governance listing standards.

Item 9B. OTHER INFORMATION

None.

PART III

Item 10. DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF THE REGISTRANT

The information required by Item 10 of Form 10-K, other than the following information required by Paragraph (b) of Item 401 of Regulation S-K, is incorporated by reference from those portions of the Company's definitive proxy statement with respect to the Annual Stockholders' Meeting scheduled to be held on June 25, 2008, to be filed pursuant to Regulation 14A (the "2008 Proxy") under the headings "Nominees for Election as Director" and "Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance."

As of March 28, 2008, the name, age and title of the executive officers of the Company are as follows:

Name

Age

Position

James R. Famalette

55

Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer

J. Gregory Ambro

55

Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer

Daniel T. Warzenski

59

Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Secretary

Michael J. Schmidt

66

Senior Vice President and Director of Stores

Scott G. Manson

54

Senior Vice President and General Merchandise Manager

36

---

James R. Famalette was appointed Chairman of the Board on August 9, 2007 and became President and Chief Executive Officer of the Company on June 25, 1999. Prior to this he served as President and Chief Operating Officer of the Company since April 14, 1997. Prior to joining the Company, Mr. Famalette was President and Chief Executive Officer of Liberty House, a department and specialty store chain based in Honolulu, Hawaii, from 1993 through 1997, and served in a variety of other positions with Liberty House from 1987 through 1993, including Vice President, Stores and Vice President, General Merchandise Manager. From 1975 to 1987 he served in a variety of senior level management positions with Village Fashions/Cameo Stores and Colonies, a specialty store chain.

J. Gregory Ambro was appointed Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer on August 9, 2007. Prior to this he served as Senior Vice President and Chief Administrative and Financial Officer of the Company since November 20, 2003. Prior to joining Gottschalks, Mr. Ambro served for three years as Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Bradlees, a regional discount department store in the Northeast. From 1995 to 2000 he served as Chief Financial Officer of Marshalls, an off-price retailer, Streamline, a grocery and consumer products retailer and Harris Teeter, an upscale supermarket chain in the Southeast. From 1978 to 1994 Mr. Ambro served in a variety of financial positions for Marshalls and the May Department Stores Co.

Daniel T. Warzenski became Vice President and Chief Financial Officer on August 9, 2007 after serving as Vice President Finance and Chief Accounting Officer of the Company since September 11, 2006. Mr. Warzenski also serves as Secretary. Prior to joining the Company, Mr. Warzenski was Vice President and Controller of Robinsons-May, a division of The May Department Stores Company, Inc., from 1996 to 2006, and served as Assistant Controller at Robinsons-May and May Company California from 1986 to 1996. From 1977 to 1986, he served in a variety of financial positions at Carter Hawley Hale Stores, Inc., The Harris Company, and HRT Industries, Inc.

Michael J. Schmidt became Senior Vice President and Director of Stores of the Company in 1985(1). From 1983 through 1985, he was Manager of the Company's Fresno, California Fashion Fair store. Prior to joining the Company, he held management positions with Liberty House, Allied Corporation and R.H. Macy & Co., Inc.

Scott G. Manson became Senior Vice President, General Merchandise Manager in 2004. He started with the Company in May 1999 as Vice President, Divisional Merchandise Manager of Ladies Sportswear and Dresses. Prior to joining the Company, he was Vice President Divisional Merchandise Manager for Dillard's Department stores from October 1998 to March 1999. From 1976 to 1998, Scott served in various senior level management positions for Mercantile Stores, including Vice President, General Merchandise Manager for the Joslins Department store in Denver and Vice President, General Merchandise Manager for the Jones Store in Kansas City.

---

(1) References to the Company prior to 1986 are more specifically to the Company's predecessor and former subsidiary, E. Gottschalk and Co., Inc.

#### Item 11. EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

The information required by this item is incorporated by reference from those portions of the Company's 2008 Proxy under the headings "Executive Compensation" and "Director Compensation for Fiscal Year 2007."

#### Item 12. SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT AND RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS

The information required by this item is incorporated by reference from the portion of the Company's 2008 Proxy under the heading "Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management" and Item 5. Market for Registrant's Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities in this report on Form 10-K.

Item 13. CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS

The information required by this item is incorporated by reference from the portion of the Company's 2008 Proxy under the heading "Certain Relationships and Related Transactions."

Item 14. PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING FEES AND SERVICES

The information required by this item is incorporated by reference from the portion of the Company's 2008 Proxy under the heading "Information on Independent Public Accountants".

PART IV

Item 15. EXHIBITS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT SCHEDULES

(a)(1) The following financial statements of Gottschalks Inc. as required by Item 8 are included in this Part IV, Item 15:

Reports of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firms

Balance Sheets - As of February 2, 2008 and February 3, 2007

Statements of Operations - Fiscal years ended February 2, 2008, February 3, 2007 and January 28, 2006

Statements of Stockholders' Equity - Fiscal years ended February 2, 2008, February 3, 2007 and January 28, 2006

Statements of Cash Flows - Fiscal years ended February 2, 2008, February 3, 2007 and January 28, 2006

Notes to Financial Statements

(a)(2) The following financial statement schedule of Gottschalks Inc. is included in Item 15(d):

Schedule II - Valuation and Qualifying Accounts

All other schedules for which provision is made in the applicable accounting regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission are included in the Financial Statements, are not required under the related instructions or are inapplicable, and therefore have been omitted.

(a)(3) and (b) The following exhibits are required by Item 601 of Regulation S-K and Item 15(c):

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit Number	Description	Incorporated by Reference From the Following Document
3.1	Certificate of Incorporation of the Registrant	Registration Statement on Form S-1 (File No. 33-3949)
3.2	<u>Second Amended and Restated Bylaws</u>	Current Report on Form 8-K dated December 4, 2007 (File No. 1-09100)
10.1	Gottschalks Inc. Retirement Savings Plan(*)	Registration Statement on Form S-1 (File No. 33-3949)
10.2	<u>Participation Agreement dated as of December 1, 1988 among Gottschalks Inc., General Foods Credit Investors No. 2 Corporation and Manufacturers Hanover Trust Company of California relating</u>	Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended January 29, 1994 (File No. 1-09100)

to the sale-leaseback of the Stockton and Bakersfield department stores and the Madera distribution facility

Edgar Filing: GOTTSCHALKS INC - Form 10-K

- |       |  |  |
|-------|--|--|
| 10.3  | <u>Lease Agreement dated December 1, 1988 by and between Manufacturers Hanover Trust Company of California and Gottschalks Inc. relating to the sale-leaseback of department stores in Stockton and Bakersfield, California and the Madera distribution facility</u>       | Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended January 29, 1994 (File No. 1-09100)    |
| 10.4  | <u>Ground Lease dated December 1, 1988 by and between Gottschalks Inc. and Manufacturers Hanover Trust Company of California relating to the sale-leaseback of the Bakersfield department store</u>  | Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended January 29, 1994 (File No. 1-09100)    |
| 10.5  | <u>Memorandum of Lease and Lease Supplement dated July 1, 1989 by and between Manufacturers Hanover Trust Company of California and Gottschalks Inc. relating to the sale-leaseback of the Stockton department store</u>   | Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended January 29, 1994 (File No. 1-09100)    |
| 10.6  | <u>Tax Indemnification Agreement dated as of August 1, 1989 by and between Gottschalks Inc. and General Foods Credit Investors No. 2 Corporation relating to the sale-leaseback of the Stockton and Bakersfield department stores and the Madera distribution facility</u> | Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended January 29, 1994 (File No. 1-09100)    |
| 10.7  | <u>Ground Lease dated August 17, 1989 by and between Gottschalks Inc. and Manufacturers Hanover Trust Company of California relating to the sale-leaseback of the Madera distribution facility</u>   | Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended January 29, 1994 (File No. 1-09100)    |
| 10.8  | <u>Lease Supplement dated as of August 17, 1989 by and between Manufacturers Hanover Trust Company of California and Gottschalks Inc. relating to the sale-leaseback of the Madera distribution facility</u>   | Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended January 29, 1994 (File No. 1-09100)    |
| 10.9  | Agreement of Limited Partnership dated March 16, 1990, by and between River Park Properties I and Gottschalks Inc. relating to the Company's corporate headquarters  | Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended February 2, 1991 (File No. 1-09100)    |
| 10.10 | <u>Lease Agreement dated as of March 16, 1990 by and between Gottschalks Inc. and River Park Properties I relating to the Company's corporate headquarters</u>   | Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended January 29, 1994 (File No. 1-09100)    |
| 10.11 | <u>Form of Severance Agreement dated March 31, 1995 by and between Gottschalks Inc. and the following senior executives of the Company: Joseph W. Levy and Michael J. Schmidt (*)</u>  | Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended January 28, 1995 (File No. 1-09100)    |
| 10.14 | <u>Agreement of Sale dated June 27, 1995, by and between Gottschalks Inc. and Jack Baskin relating to the sale and leaseback of the Capitola, California property</u>  | Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended July 29, 1995 (File No. 1-09100) |
| 10.15 | <u>Lease and Agreement dated June 27, 1995, by and between Jack Baskin and Gottschalks Inc. relating to the sale and leaseback of the Capitola, California property</u>  | Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended July 29, 1995 (File No. 1-09100) |
| 10.18 | <u>Gottschalks Inc. 1998 Stock Option Plan(*)</u>  | Registration Statement on Form S-8 (File #33-61471)                                  |
| 10.19 | <u>Gottschalks Inc. 1998 Employee Stock Purchase Plan(*)</u>   |  |

		Registration Statement on Form S-8 (File #33-61473)
10.20	<u>Asset Purchase Agreement dated as of July 21, 1998 among Gottschalks Inc., The Harris Company and El Corte Ingles, S. A. together with all Exhibits thereto</u>	Current Report on Form 8-K dated July 21, 1998 (File No. 1-09100)
10.22	<u>Registration Rights Agreement between The Harris Company and Gottschalks Inc. dated August 20, 1998</u>	Current Report on Form 8-K dated August 20, 1998 (File No. 1-09100)



Edgar Filing: GOTTSCHALKS INC - Form 10-K

10.23	<u>Tradename License Agreement between The Harris Company and Gottschalks Inc. dated August 20, 1998</u>	Current Report on Form 8-K dated August 20, 1998 (File No. 1-09100)
10.24	<u>Stockholders' Agreement among El Corte Ingles, S. A., Gottschalks Inc., Joseph Levy and Bret Levy dated August 20, 1998</u>	Current Report on Form 8-K dated August 20, 1998 (File No. 1-09100)
10.26	<u>Store Lease Agreement between El Corte Ingles, S. A., and Gottschalks Inc. dated August 20, 1998 re: East Hills Mall, Bakersfield, California</u>	Current Report on Form 8-K dated August 20, 1998 (File No. 1-09100)
10.27	<u>Store Lease Agreement between El Corte Ingles, S. A., and Gottschalks Inc. dated August 20, 1998 re: Moreno Valley Mall at Towngate, Moreno Valley, California</u>	Current Report on Form 8-K dated August 20, 1998 (File No. 1-09100)
10.28	<u>Store Lease Agreement between El Corte Ingles, S. A., and Gottschalks Inc. dated August 20, 1998 re: Antelope Valley Mall at Palmdale, California</u>	Current Report on Form 8-K dated August 20, 1998 (File No. 1-09100)
10.33	<u>Employment Agreement dated June 25, 1999 by and between Gottschalks Inc. and James R. Famalette(*)</u>	Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended July 31, 1999 (File No. 1-09100)
10.42	<u>Amendment to Employment Agreement dated December 3, 2001 by and between Gottschalks Inc. and James R. Famalette (*)</u>	Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended February 2, 2002 (File No. 1-09100)
10.52	<u>Purchase and Sale Agreement dated January 30, 2003 by and among Gottschalks Credit Receivables Corporation, Gottschalks Inc. and Household Bank (SB), N.A.</u>	Current Report on Form 8-K dated January 31, 2003
10.53	<u>Interim Servicing Agreement dated January 30, 2003 by and between Gottschalks Inc. and Household Bank (SB), N.A.</u>	Current Report on Form 8-K dated January 31, 2003
10.54	<u>Credit Card Program Agreement dated January 30, 2003 by and between Gottschalks Inc. and Household Bank (SB), N.A.</u>	Current Report on Form 8-K dated January 31, 2003
10.55	<u>Amendment to Amended and Restated Receivables Purchase Agreement dated January 31, 2003 by and between Gottschalks Inc. and Gottschalks Credit Receivables Corporation</u>	Current Report on Form 8-K dated January 31, 2003
10.56	Second Amended and Restated Credit Agreement dated September 26, 2007, by and among Gottschalks Inc. and General Electric Capital Corporation	Filed electronically herewith
10.58	<u>Form of Severance Agreement dated March 12, 2007 by and between Gottschalks Inc. and the following senior executives of the Company: J. Gregory Ambro and Michael J. Schmidt. (*)</u>	Current Report on Form 8-K dated March 19, 2007
10.59	<u>Amendment to Employment Agreement dated March 12, 2007 by and between Gottschalks Inc. and James R. Famalette. (*)</u>	Current Report on Form 8-K dated March 19, 2007
10.60	<u>Form of Severance Agreement dated March 25, 2008 by and between Gottschalks Inc. and Daniel T. Warzenski. (*)</u>	Current Report on Form 8-K dated March 31, 2008

- |      |  |                               |
|------|--|-------------------------------|
| 23.1 | <u>Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm<br/>PDF provided as courtesy</u> | Filed electronically herewith |
| 23.2 | <u>Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm<br/>PDF provided as courtesy</u> | Filed electronically herewith |

Edgar Filing: GOTTSCHALKS INC - Form 10-K

- |      |  |                                 |                                 |
|------|--|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 31.1 | <u>Rule 13a - 14(a) Certification of Chief Executive Officer provided as courtesy</u>  | <u>PDF</u>                      | Furnished concurrently herewith |
| 31.2 | <u>Rule 13a - 14(a) Certification of Chief Financial Officer provided as courtesy</u>  | <u>PDF</u>                      | Furnished concurrently herewith |
| 32.1 | <u>Certification of President and Chief Executive Officer Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1350, As Adopted Pursuant to § 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.</u>      | <u>PDF provided as courtesy</u> | Furnished concurrently herewith |
| 32.2 | <u>Certification of Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1350, As Adopted Pursuant to § 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.</u> | <u>PDF provided as courtesy</u> | Furnished concurrently herewith |

(\* ) Management contract, compensatory plan or arrangement.

(\*\*) These loans were retired with proceeds from a mortgage loan completed on March 22, 2002 (See Exhibit 10.46)

Edgar Filing: GOTTSCHALKS INC - Form 10-K

ANNUAL REPORT ON FORM 10-K

ITEM 8, 15(a)(1) and (2), (c) and (d)

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

CERTAIN EXHIBITS

FINANCIAL STATEMENT SCHEDULE

YEAR ENDED FEBRUARY 2, 2008

GOTTSCHALKS INC.

FRESNO, CALIFORNIA

42

---

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

Board of Directors and Stockholders

Gottschalks Inc.

Fresno, California

We have audited Gottschalks Inc.'s internal control over financial reporting as of February 2, 2008, based on criteria established in *Internal Control - Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (the COSO criteria). Gottschalks Inc.'s management is responsible for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, included in the accompanying Item 9A, *Management's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting*. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the company's internal control over financial reporting based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether effective internal control over financial reporting was maintained in all material respects. Our audit included obtaining an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, and testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on the assessed risk. Our audit also included performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

A company's internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. A company's internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (1) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the company; (2) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of the company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the company; and (3) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition of the company's assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

In our opinion, Gottschalks Inc. maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of February 2, 2008, based on the COSO criteria.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the balance sheet of Gottschalks Inc. as of February 2, 2008, and the related statements of operations, stockholders' equity, and cash flows for the period ended February 2, 2008 and our report dated April 7, 2008 expressed an unqualified opinion thereon.

/s/ BDO Seidman, LLP

San Francisco, California

April 7, 2008



Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

Board of Directors and Stockholders  
Gottschalks Inc.  
Fresno, California

We have audited the accompanying balance sheet of Gottschalks Inc. as of February 2, 2008, and the related statements of operations, stockholders' equity, and cash flows for the fiscal year ended February 2, 2008. In connection with our audit of the financial statements, we have also audited the information for the fiscal year ended February 2, 2008 in the financial statement schedule listed in the accompanying index. These financial statements and the schedule are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements and the schedule based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Gottschalks Inc. at February 2, 2008, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the fiscal year ended February 2, 2008, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Also, in our opinion, the information for the fiscal year ended February 2, 2008 in the financial statement schedule, when considered in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole, presents fairly, in all material respects, the information set forth therein.

As discussed in Note 10 to the financial statements, effective February 4, 2007, the Company adopted the provisions of FASB Interpretation Number 48, *Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes - an Interpretation of FASB Statement 109*. Also, as discussed in Note 1 to the financial statements, effective January 29, 2006, the Company adopted the provisions of SFAS Number 123 (Revised), *Share Based Payment*.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), Gottschalks Inc.'s internal control over financial reporting as of February 2, 2008, based on criteria established in *Internal Control — Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO) and our report dated April 7, 2008 expressed an unqualified opinion thereon.

/s/ BDO Seidman, LLP

San Francisco, California  
April 7, 2008

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

To the Board of Directors and Stockholders of  
Gottschalks Inc.  
Fresno, California

We have audited the accompanying balance sheet of Gottschalks Inc. (the "Company") as of February 3, 2007, and the related statements of income, stockholders' equity and cash flows for the years ended February 3, 2007 and January 28, 2006. Our audits also included the financial statement schedule for the years ended February 3, 2007 and January 28, 2006 listed in the Index at Item 15 (a) (2). The Company's management is responsible for these financial statements and financial statement schedule. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements and financial statement schedule based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinions.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Gottschalks Inc. at February 3, 2007, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the years ended February 3, 2007 and January 28, 2006 in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Also, in our opinion, such financial statement schedule, when considered in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole, presents fairly in all material respects the information set forth therein for the years ended February 3, 2007 and January 28, 2006.

As discussed in Note 1 to the financial statements, on January 29, 2006, the Company changed its method of accounting for share based payment arrangements to conform to Statement of Financial Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 123(R), *Share-Based Payment*.

/s/ Deloitte & Touche LLP

San Francisco, California  
April 12, 2007



## GOTTSCHALKS INC.

## BALANCE SHEETS

(In thousands, except share and per share data)

	February 2, 2008	February 3, 2007
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>CURRENT ASSETS:</b>		
Cash	\$ 4,032	\$ 6,051
Receivables - net	7,049	8,198
Merchandise inventories	149,310	168,702
Other	18,984	19,421
Total current assets	179,375	202,372
PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT - net	137,931	134,696
<b>OTHER ASSETS:</b>		
Goodwill	7,501	7,501
Other intangibles - net	616	487
Other	6,571	5,010
	14,688	12,998
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 331,994</b>	<b>\$ 350,066</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY</b>		
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES:</b>		
Trade accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 69,463	\$ 79,854
Current portion of long-term debt	1,276	1,243
Current portion of capitalized lease obligations	249	433
Deferred income taxes	3,096	3,541
Total current liabilities	74,084	85,071
REVOLVING LINE OF CREDIT	93,899	83,762
LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS, less current portion	12,049	13,592
OTHER LIABILITIES	16,875	12,558
DEFERRED INCOME TAXES	4,962	11,311
SUBORDINATED NOTE PAYABLE TO AFFILIATE	18,180	19,180
COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES (Notes 8 and 16)		
<b>STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY:</b>		
Common stock, par value of \$.01 per share; 30,000,000 shares authorized; 13,700,758 and 13,569,743 issued; 13,282,958 and 13,569,743 outstanding	137	136
Additional paid-in capital	77,822	76,527
Retained earnings	35,473	47,929
Less treasury stock, at cost	(1,487)	-
	111,945	124,592

Edgar Filing: GOTTSCHALKS INC - Form 10-K

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDER'S EQUITY	\$	<u>331,994</u>	\$	<u>350,066</u>
--	----	----------------	----	----------------

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

GOTTSCHALKS INC.  
 STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS  
 (In thousands, except per share data)

	Fiscal Years Ended		
	February 2, 2008	February 3, 2007	January 28, 2006
Net sales	\$ 628,550	\$ 680,966	\$ 665,460
Net credit revenues	4,868	3,087	3,084
Net leased department revenues	3,000	3,428	3,506
<b>Total revenues</b>	<b>636,418</b>	<b>687,481</b>	<b>672,050</b>
Costs and expenses:			
Cost of sales	420,887	446,619	434,387
Selling, general and administrative expenses	209,552	212,355	204,945
Depreciation and amortization	15,173	15,276	13,242
Gain on sale of aircraft	-	(946)	-
Loss on disposal of assets	418	-	-
VEBA litigation	-	60	1,811
New store opening costs	485	376	688
<b>Total costs and expenses</b>	<b>646,515</b>	<b>673,740</b>	<b>655,073</b>
Operating income (loss)	(10,097)	13,741	16,977
Other (income) expense:			
Interest expense	10,807	10,058	9,242
Miscellaneous income	(489)	(1,389)	(1,515)
	10,318	8,669	7,727
Income (loss) from continuing operations before income tax	(20,415)	5,072	9,250
Income tax expense (benefit)	(7,982)	1,631	3,107
Income (loss) from continuing operations	(12,433)	3,441	6,143
Discontinued operations:			
Loss from operations of closed stores	-	(1,102)	(1,609)
Gain (loss) on store closures	-	(98)	180
Income tax benefit	-	408	486
Loss on discontinued operations	-	(792)	(943)
Net income (loss)	\$ (12,433)	\$ 2,649	\$ 5,200
Net income (loss) per common share:			
Basic			
Income (loss) from continuing operations	\$ (0.91)	\$ 0.26	\$ 0.46
Loss on discontinued operations	-	(0.06)	(0.07)

Edgar Filing: GOTTSCHALKS INC - Form 10-K

Net income (loss) per common share	\$	(0.91)	\$	0.20	\$	0.39
Diluted						
Income (loss) from continuing operations	\$	(0.91)	\$	0.25	\$	0.45
Loss on discontinued operations	\$	-	\$	(0.06)	\$	(0.07)
Net income (loss) per common share	\$	(0.91)	\$	0.19	\$	0.38
Weighted average number of common shares outstanding						
Basic		13,601		13,428		13,245
Diluted		13,601		13,758		13,797

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

GOTTSCHALKS INC.  
 STATEMENTS OF STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY  
 (In thousands, except share data)

	Common Stock		Additional Paid-in Capital	Retained Earnings	Treasury Stock	Total
	Shares	Amount				
BALANCE, JANUARY 29, 2005	13,030,269	\$ 130	\$ 72,146	\$ 40,080	\$ -	\$ 112,356
Net income				5,200	-	5,200
Stock options exercised	321,650	4	2,276		-	2,280
Shares issued under employee stock purchase plan	9,230	-	68	-	-	68
BALANCE, JANUARY 28, 2006	13,361,149	134	74,490	45,280	-	119,904
Net income				2,649	-	2,649
Stock options exercised	196,100	2	899	-	-	901
Shares issued under employee stock purchase plan	12,494	-	69	-	-	69
Stock-based compensation	-	-	810	-	-	810
Tax benefit from exercise of stock options	-	-	248	-	-	248
Tax effect of terminated stock options	-	-	11	-	-	11
BALANCE, FEBRUARY 3, 2007	13,569,743	136	76,527	47,929	-	124,592
Net loss	-	-	-	(12,433)	-	(12,433)
Cumulative effect of adoption of FIN 48	-	-	-	(23)	-	(23)
Stock options exercised	120,125	1	670	-	-	671
Shares issued under employee stock purchase plan	10,890	-	57	-	-	57
Stock-based compensation	-	-	417	-	-	417
Purchase of treasury shares	(417,800)	-	-	-	(1,487)	(1,487)
Tax benefit from exercise of stock options	-	-	143	-	-	143
Tax effect of terminated stock options	-	-	8	-	-	8
BALANCE, FEBRUARY 2, 2008	13,282,958	\$ 137	\$ 77,822	\$ 35,473	\$ (1,487)	\$ 111,945

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

GOTTSCHALKS INC.  
STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS  
(In thousands of dollars)

	Fiscal Years Ended		
	February 2, 2008	February 3, 2007	January 28, 2006
Net income (loss)	\$ (12,433)	\$ 2,649	\$ 5,200
Adjustments:			
Stock-based compensation	417	810	-
Excess tax benefits from exercise of stock options	(151)	(248)	-
Depreciation and amortization	15,173	15,345	13,654
Deferred income taxes	(6,794)	288	882
Amortization of deferred income and other deferred items	3,791	(1,375)	(1,955)
Store closure costs	111	142	120
Net (gain) loss from sale of assets	418	(978)	131
Distributions of earnings from investment in limited partnership	475	484	-
Changes in assets and liabilities:			
Receivables	1,033	(914)	(364)
Merchandise inventories	20,617	(7,230)	(5,790)
Other current and long-term assets	(360)	(4,115)	872
Trade accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(9,694)	(11,830)	9,587
Other current and long-term liabilities	(1,593)	2,137	(2,721)
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	<u>11,010</u>	<u>(4,835)</u>	<u>19,616</u>
<b>INVESTING ACTIVITIES:</b>			
Purchases of property and equipment	(20,662)	(21,100)	(22,227)
Proceeds from sale of building and aircraft	602	4,187	-
Distributions of earnings from investment in limited partnership	-	-	365
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>(20,060)</u>	<u>(16,913)</u>	<u>(21,862)</u>
<b>FINANCING ACTIVITIES:</b>			
Net proceeds under revolving credit facility	10,137	35,826	2,182
Proceeds from long-term obligations	-	3,000	6,000
Principal payments on long-term obligations	(2,694)	(20,472)	(4,156)
Purchase of treasury stock	(1,487)	-	-
Changes in cash management liability	1,434	2,891	(3,284)
Debt issuance costs	(1,238)	(41)	(232)
Proceeds from exercise of options	671	917	1,566
Proceeds from sale of stock under employee stock purchase plans	57	62	68
Excess tax benefits from exercise of stock options	151	248	-
Net cash provided by financing activities	<u>7,031</u>	<u>22,431</u>	<u>2,144</u>
<b>INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH</b>	<u>(2,019)</u>	<u>683</u>	<u>(102)</u>
<b>CASH AT BEGINNING OF YEAR</b>	<u>6,051</u>	<u>5,368</u>	<u>5,470</u>
<b>CASH AT END OF YEAR</b>	<u>\$ 4,032</u>	<u>\$ 6,051</u>	<u>\$ 5,368</u>



See accompanying notes to financial statements.



GOTTSCHALKS INC.  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

---

1.

**NATURE OF OPERATIONS AND SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

Gottschalks Inc. (the "Company") is a regional department and specialty store chain based in Fresno, California. As of February 2, 2008, the Company operated 59 full-line department stores located in six Western states, with 39 stores located in California, 7 in Washington, 5 in Alaska, 4 in Oregon, 2 in Nevada and 2 in Idaho. The Company also operated 4 specialty stores which carry a limited selection of merchandise. The Company's department stores typically offer a wide range of better to moderate brand-name and private-label merchandise, including men's, women's, juniors' and children's apparel, cosmetics, shoes and accessories, and also a wide array of home furnishings, including domestics, china, housewares, small electrics and, in certain locations, furniture and mattresses.

Use of Estimates

- The preparation of the financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting periods. On an ongoing basis, the Company evaluates its estimates, including those related to its revenue recognition policy, the carrying value of its merchandise inventories, the adequacy of its workers' compensation insurance reserves, and the valuation of its long-lived assets, including goodwill, and its deferred tax assets. Such estimates and assumptions are subject to inherent uncertainties which may cause actual results to differ from reported amounts.

Fiscal Year

- The Company's fiscal year ends on the Saturday nearest January 31. Fiscal years 2007, 2006 and 2005 ended on February 2, 2008, February 3, 2007 and January 28, 2006, respectively. Fiscal 2006 included 53 weeks, and 2007 and 2005 each included 52 weeks.

Revenue Recognition

- Net retail sales are recorded at the point-of-sale and include sales of merchandise, net of estimated returns and exclusive of sales tax. Net retail sales also include all amounts billed to customers for shipping and handling, including customer delivery charges. Revenues on special order sales are recognized when the merchandise is delivered to the customer. The Company does not sell merchandise on layaway. The Company's policy with respect to gift cards is to record revenue as the gift cards are redeemed for merchandise. Prior to their redemption, the gift cards are recorded as a liability. The liability remains recorded until the earlier of redemption, escheatment, or 60 months. It is the Company's historical experience that the likelihood of redemption after 60 months is remote. The Company records an allowance for estimated sales returns in the period in which the related sale occurs. These estimates are based primarily on historical sales returns. If the historical data used to calculate these estimates does not properly reflect future returns, adjustments to the allowance for estimated sales returns may be necessary.

The Company offers its private label credit card customers a points based rewards program. The program offers one point for every one dollar in net annual spending using the Company's private label credit card. At the end of each calendar year qualifying customers are sent a merchandise certificate for up to 5% of the total points accumulated, up to a maximum of 10,000 points, or \$500. As points are earned throughout the year the Company accrues for the estimated costs of goods to be sold via redemption of the merchandise certificates based on historical redemption rates.



Net credit revenues consist primarily of a percentage of net private label credit card sales and the amortization of the prepaid program fee as provided for under the Credit Card Program Agreement with HSBC (Note 2). Net leased department revenues consist of rental income from lessees and sub-lessees and are based on a percentage of total sales generated in such leased departments during respective fiscal periods. Sales generated in such leased departments totaled \$21,027,000, \$23,923,000 and \$24,406,000 in 2007, 2006 and 2005, respectively.

Cash

- Amounts in-transit from banks for customer credit card, debit card and electronic benefit transfer transactions that process in less than seven days are classified as cash in our Balance Sheets. The banks process the majority of these amounts within one to two business days. There was \$2.0 million and \$3.6 million of in-transits from banks included in cash as of February 2, 2008 and February 3, 2007, respectively.

Receivables - As of February 2, 2008 and February 3, 2007, receivables consist of vendor claims of \$7,128,844, less allowances of \$80,000, and vendor claims of \$8,278,377, less allowances of \$80,000, respectively.

#### Merchandise Inventories

- Inventories, which consist of merchandise held for resale, are valued by the retail inventory method and are stated at last-in, first-out (LIFO) cost, which is not in excess of market. Current cost, which approximates replacement cost, under the first-in, first-out (FIFO) method is equal to the LIFO value of inventories at February 2, 2008 and February 3, 2007. The Company includes in inventory the capitalization of certain indirect buying, handling and distribution costs to better match these costs with the related sales.

Under the retail inventory method, inventory is segregated into departments of merchandise having similar characteristics, and is stated at its current retail selling value. Inventory retail values are converted to a cost basis by applying specific average cost factors for each merchandise department. Cost factors represent the average cost-to-retail ratio for each merchandise department based on beginning inventory and the fiscal year purchase activity. The retail inventory method inherently requires management judgments and estimates, such as the amount and timing of permanent markdowns to clear unproductive or slow-moving inventory, which may impact the ending inventory valuation as well as gross margins.

Permanent markdowns designated for clearance activity are recorded when the utility of the inventory has diminished. Factors considered in the determination of permanent markdowns include current and anticipated demand, customer preferences, age of the merchandise and fashion trends. When a decision is made to permanently mark down merchandise, the resulting gross margin reduction is recognized in the period the markdown is recorded.

Shrinkage is estimated as a percentage of sales for the period from the last inventory date to the end of the fiscal period. Such estimates are based on experience and the most recent physical inventory results. Physical inventories are taken within each merchandise department annually and inventory records are adjusted accordingly.

The Company receives cash or allowances from merchandise vendors as purchase price adjustments and in connection with cooperative advertising programs. Purchase price adjustments are credited to cost of sales and cooperative advertising allowances are credited against advertising expense in accordance with Emerging Issues Task Force ("EITF") Issue No. 02-16, "Accounting by a Customer (Including a Reseller) for Certain Consideration Received from a Vendor."

#### Workers' Compensation

- The Company has a pre-funded deposit and a liability relating to its workers' compensation claims. Liabilities associated with these losses include estimates of both losses reported and losses incurred but not yet reported, together referred to as "ultimate losses". We estimate our ultimate losses based on analysis of historical data and independent actuarial estimates.

#### Store Closure Costs

- In the event a store is closed before its lease has expired, the remaining lease obligation after the closing date (less anticipated sublease rental income or proceeds from lease settlements, if any) is expensed at the date the store ceases operations. Asset impairment charges, if any, related to furniture, fixtures and equipment, leasehold improvements, goodwill and leasehold interests are expensed in the period in which management adopts a plan to close the store if impairment is considered likely as a result of such planned store closure or at such other time as impairment becomes likely. Severance and other incremental costs associated with a store closure are expensed as incurred.

#### New Store Opening Costs

- New store opening costs are expensed as incurred and may vary significantly from year to year depending on the number of new stores opened.

Property and Equipment

- Depreciation of owned properties is provided primarily on a straight-line basis over the estimated asset lives, which range from 15 to 40 years for buildings and leasehold improvements and 3 to 15 years for furniture, fixtures and equipment. Buildings on leased land and leasehold improvements are amortized over the shorter of their economic lives or the lease term, beginning on the date the asset is put into use. The lease term, which includes all renewal periods that are considered to be reasonably assured, begins on the date the Company has access to the leased property. The amortization of buildings and equipment under capital leases is computed by the straight-line method over the term of the lease or the estimated economic life of the asset, depending on the criteria used to classify the lease, and such amortization is combined with depreciation in the accompanying statements of income.

Leases

- The Company recognizes operating lease minimum rentals on a straight-line basis over the lease term. The Company receives contributions from landlords to fund buildings and leasehold improvements. Such contributions

are primarily recorded as deferred rent and amortized as reductions to lease expense over the lease term. During fiscal 2005, due to the Company's involvement in the construction of the building at its River Park store and other factors, the Company recorded \$10.2 million in building and equipment under capital leases and \$6.0 million in capital lease obligations associated with landlord reimbursements received. Executory costs such as real estate taxes and maintenance, and contingent rentals such as those based on a percentage of sales are recognized as incurred. The lease term, which includes all renewal periods that are considered to be reasonably assured, began on the date the Company had access to the leased property. The excess in rent expense over actual cash paid is recorded as deferred rent.

#### Software Development Costs

- Costs associated with the acquisition or development of software for internal use that meet the criteria of AICPA Statement of Position No. 98-1, "Accounting for Costs of Computer Software Developed or Obtained for Internal Use" are capitalized and amortized over the expected useful life of the software, which generally ranges from 3 to 10 years. Software development costs capitalized under SOP No. 98-1 in fiscal 2007, 2006 and 2005 totaled \$50,000, \$191,000 and \$177,000, respectively. Amortization of such costs totaled \$205,000, \$425,000 and \$420,000 in fiscal 2007, 2006 and 2005, respectively.

#### Goodwill

- Goodwill and intangible assets having indefinite lives are not being amortized to earnings, but instead are subject to periodic testing for impairment. Goodwill and other intangible assets of a reporting unit are tested for impairment on an annual basis and more frequently if certain indicators are encountered. The Company has three geographical regions that it considers reporting units and operating segments, as the Company manages operations based on these regions. The Company has performed the required annual impairment review of goodwill for each of the fiscal years reported and concluded that there was no indication of impairment as of the respective measurement dates.

#### Investment in Partnership

- The Company has a 36% interest in a partnership which is accounted for using the equity method because the Company has the ability to exercise significant influence over the investee's operating and financial policies. The partnership owns the office building in which the Company's headquarters are located. See Note 15.

#### Leasehold Interests

- Leasehold interests associated with acquired leases are amortized on a straight-line basis over the respective lease terms, including option renewal periods if renewal of the lease is probable, which range from 1 to 20 years.

#### Cash Management Liability

- Under the Company's cash management program, checks issued by the Company and not yet presented for payment frequently result in overdraft balances for accounting purposes. Such amounts represent interest-free, short-term borrowings by the Company.

#### Miscellaneous Income

- Miscellaneous income consists of rental income from sub-leased properties, income from the Company's investment in a partnership, and miscellaneous non-operating income and expense. Miscellaneous income does not include any material offsetting expense items.

#### Advertising Costs

- Advertising costs, net of cooperative advertising allowances, totaling \$30,015,000, \$29,695,000 and \$28,946,000 in 2007, 2006 and 2005, respectively, are included in selling, general and administrative expenses for financial reporting purposes and are expensed when the related advertisement first takes place. Cooperative advertising allowances were \$11,008,000, \$12,965,000 and \$12,097,000 in 2007, 2006 and 2005 respectively.

#### Income Taxes

- Deferred tax assets and liabilities are generally recognized for the expected future tax consequences of events that have been included in the financial statements or tax returns, determined based on the differences between the financial statement and tax basis of assets and liabilities and net operating loss and tax credit carryforwards, and by using enacted tax rates in effect when the differences are expected to reverse. A valuation allowance is recorded when it is more likely than not that the carrying amounts of deferred tax assets will not be fully realized.

In June 2006, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued Financial Interpretation No. (FIN) 48, "Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes," which clarifies the accounting for uncertainty in income taxes recognized in an enterprise's financial statements in accordance with FASB Statement No. 109, "Accounting for Income Taxes." The interpretation prescribes a "more likely than not" recognition threshold and measurement attribute for the financial statement recognition and measurement of a tax position taken or expected to be taken in a tax return. FIN 48 applies to all tax positions related to income taxes subject to SFAS 109 and creates a single model to address accounting for uncertainty in tax positions. FIN 48 requires that tax positions accounted for under SFAS

109 be evaluated for recognition based solely on technical merits and the resulting tax benefits be measured using a cumulative probability assessment and the Company's plan for settlement. The Company adopted FIN 48 effective February 4, 2007. The adoption of FIN 48 did not have a material effect on the Company's consolidated financial position or results of operations (see Note 10).

### Stock-Based Compensation

- At February 2, 2008, the Company has two stock-based employee compensation plans, which are more fully described in Note 12. The Company accounts for these plans under SFAS No. 123 (revised 2004), "Share-Based Payment" ("SFAS No. 123R"). The Company adopted SFAS No. 123R in the first quarter of 2006 using the modified prospective approach. Under the modified prospective method, compensation expense is recorded for the unvested portion of previously issued awards that remain outstanding at January 29, 2006 using the same estimate of the grant date fair value and the same attribution method used to determine the pro forma disclosure under SFAS No. 123. SFAS No. 123R requires all share-based payments to employees, including grants of employee stock options after January 26, 2006, be recognized in the financial statements as compensation cost based on the fair value on the date of grant.

Prior to the adoption of SFAS No. 123R, the Company accounted for its plans under the recognition and measurement principles of Accounting Principles Board ("APB") Opinion No. 25, "Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees," and related interpretations. No stock-based employee compensation cost is reflected in net income during 2005, as all options granted under those plans had an exercise price equal to the market value of the underlying common stock on the date of the grant.

The following table illustrates the effect on net income and earnings per share if the Company had applied the fair value recognition provisions of SFAS 123R in fiscal 2005. The Company's calculations were made using the Black-Scholes option pricing model, which is more fully described in Note 13.

<b>(In thousands, except per share data)</b>		<b>Fiscal Year 2005</b>
Net income as reported	\$	5,200
Deduct: Total stock-based compensation expense determined under fair value based method for all awards, net of related tax effects		(584)
Pro forma net income	\$	4,616
Earnings per share:		
As reported:		
Basic	\$	0.39
Diluted	\$	0.38
Pro-forma:		
Basic	\$	0.35
Diluted	\$	0.33

### Long-Lived Assets

- The Company periodically evaluates the carrying value of long-lived assets to be held and used, including intangible assets other than goodwill, when events and circumstances warrant such a review. When the anticipated undiscounted cash flow from a long-lived asset is less than its carrying value, a loss is recognized based on the amount by which its carrying value exceeds its fair market value. Fair market value is determined primarily using the anticipated cash

flows discounted at a rate commensurate with the risks involved, and in some cases, the expected proceeds from the sale or sublease of a particular asset, or independent appraisals. There were no asset impairment charges from continuing operations recognized in fiscal 2007, 2006 or 2005.

Discontinued Operations

- The Company has determined that certain store closures constitute discontinued operations based on whether the store closure results in the Company's exit from a market area. If a store closure, or closures, is determined to be a discontinued operation, as prescribed by SFAS No. 144, "Accounting for the Impairment or Disposal of Long-lived Assets," results of operations of the closed store are excluded from continuing operations and reported separately in discontinued operations for all periods presented. Store closures in areas that continue to be served by other stores are not considered discontinued operations.

Fair Value of Financial Instruments - The carrying value of the Company's cash and cash management liability, receivables, trade payables and other accrued expenses, and the revolving line of credit approximate their estimated fair values because of the short maturities or variable interest rates underlying those instruments. The carrying value of the Subordinated Note approximates its estimated fair value.

The fair values of the Company's mortgage loans and notes payable are estimated using discounted cash flow analysis, based on the Company's current incremental borrowing rates for similar types of borrowing arrangements. Borrowings with aggregate carrying values of \$5,349,000 and \$6,624,000 at February 2, 2008 and February 3, 2007, had estimated fair values of \$5,603,000 and \$6,596,000 at February 2, 2008 and February 3, 2007, respectively. The estimated fair value of the Company's derivative financial instrument is disclosed in Note 6.

### Segment Reporting

- We have reviewed SFAS 131, *Disclosures about Segments of an Enterprise and Related Information*, and determined that we meet the aggregation criteria outlined as our regional operating segments have similar economic characteristics, products and services, and distribution channels. Therefore, the Company reports as one reportable segment.

Revenues are derived from merchandise sales from customers. The Company purchases merchandise from numerous suppliers; however, no single vendor accounted for more than 5% of the Company's net purchases in fiscal 2007. The Company's merchandising activities are conducted centrally from its corporate office in Fresno, California.

The Company's percentage of total sales (including leased department sales) by major product line is reflected in the following table:

	Fiscal Years		
	2007	2006	2005
Women's Apparel	29.0 %	28.3 %	28.2 %
Cosmetics, Shoes & Accessories	27.6	26.9	25.8
Home	16.7	17.9	18.7
Men's Apparel	12.4	12.7	12.8
Juniors' and Children's Apparel	11.1	10.8	11.0
Leased Departments	3.2	3.4	3.5
Total Sales	100.0 %	100.0 %	100.0 %

### Comprehensive Income

- There were no items of other comprehensive income in 2007, 2006 or 2005, and therefore net income is equal to comprehensive income for each of those years.

### New Accounting Pronouncements

-

In September 2006, the FASB issued SFAS No. 157, "Fair Value Measurements." SFAS 157 defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value and expands disclosures about fair value measurements. SFAS 157 applies under other accounting pronouncements that require or permit fair value measurement. SFAS 157 does not



require any new fair value measurement and the Company is currently evaluating the impact, if any, of SFAS 157 on its financial position, results of operations and cash flows. SFAS 157 requires prospective application for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007.

In February 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 159, "The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities," (SFAS 159). This statement permits entities to choose to measure many financial instruments and certain other items at fair value. The objective is to improve financial reporting by providing entities with the opportunity to reduce fluctuation in reported earnings caused by measuring related assets and liabilities differently without having to apply complex hedge accounting provisions. Most of the provisions of SFAS 159 apply only to entities that elect the fair value option. However, the amendment to FASB Statement No. 115, "Accounting for

Certain Investments in Debt and Equity Securities," applies to all entities with available-for-sale and trading securities. SFAS 159 is effective for Gottschalks Inc. on February 3, 2008. The Company is currently evaluating the impact, if any, of SFAS 159 on its financial position, results of operations, and cash flows.

In March 2008, the FASB issued SFAS No. 161, "Disclosures about Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities," (SFAS 161). This statement changes the disclosure requirements for derivative instruments and hedging activities. Entities are required to provide enhanced disclosures about how and why an entity uses derivative instruments, how derivative instruments and related hedged items are accounted for under SFAS No. 133 and its related interpretations, and how derivative instruments and related hedged items affect an entity's financial position, financial performance, and cash flows. SFAS 161 is effective for the Company on February 1, 2009. The Company is currently evaluating the impact, if any, of SFAS 161 on its financial position, results of operations and cash flows.

## 2. NET CREDIT REVENUES

In January 2003, the Company entered into a Credit Card Program Agreement (the "CCA") with HSBC.

The CCA sets forth the terms and conditions under which HSBC will issue credit cards to the Company's customers and pay the Company for sales made on the cards. Under the terms of the CCA, the Company is required to perform certain duties, including the duties to receive in-store customer payments on behalf of HSBC and remit such payments to HSBC. The CCA further provides the Company will be paid a percentage of Net Cardholder Charges and a percentage of Other Revenue (each as defined in the CCA). The CCA had an initial term of five (5) years expiring January 31, 2008 and was cancelable earlier by either party under certain circumstances.

On February 4, 2007, the Company and HSBC entered into a new Credit Card Program Agreement which has a term of six (6) years and is cancelable by either party under certain circumstances. This amended agreement provides the Company will be paid a percentage of net credit card sales, a percentage of other revenue and will be paid a one-time prepaid program fee (each as defined in the CCA). The prepaid program fee totaling \$1,500,000 is being amortized on a straight-line basis over the six year term of the agreement. In addition, a percentage of net credit card sales (as defined in the CCA) will be used by HSBC and the Company to support the private-label credit card to fund marketing programs.

Net credit revenues associated with the Company's private label credit card program currently consist primarily of a percentage of net credit card sales and the amortization of the prepaid program fee. Net credit revenues were \$4,868,000, \$3,087,000 and \$3,084,000 in fiscal 2007, 2006, and 2005, respectively.

## 3. PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

Property and equipment consists of the following:

(In thousands)	February 2, 2008	February 3, 2007
Furniture, fixtures and equipment	\$ 136,654	\$ 127,715
Buildings and leasehold improvements	101,219	96,698
Land	15,185	15,185
Buildings and equipment under capital leases	26,170	28,936
Construction in progress	2,835	1,872
	<u>282,063</u>	<u>270,406</u>
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization	(144,132)	(135,710)

Edgar Filing: GOTTSCHALKS INC - Form 10-K

\$ 137,931 \$ 134,696

---

During the third quarter of fiscal 2005, due to the Company's involvement in the construction of the building at its River Park store and other factors, the Company recorded \$10.2 million in building and leasehold improvements under capital leases and \$6.0 million in capital lease obligations associated with landlord reimbursements received. The Company plans to construct a 55,000 square foot store at an approximate cost of \$6.8 million, including fixtures, in Bend, Oregon.

## 4. TRADE ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND ACCRUED LIABILITIES

Trade accounts payable and accrued liabilities consist of the following:

(In thousands)	February 2, 2008	February 3, 2007
Trade accounts payable	\$ 14,426	\$ 27,545
Accrued liabilities	12,808	15,330
Gift and merchandise cards	9,372	9,542
Workers' compensation insurance reserves	6,175	7,296
Taxes, other than income taxes	11,232	3,991
Accrued payroll and related liabilities	8,926	9,400
Cash management liability	6,524	5,090
Federal and state income taxes payable	-	1,660
	<u>\$ 69,463</u>	<u>\$ 79,854</u>

## 5. DEBT

## New Senior Secured Credit Facility

The Company signed a second Amended and Restated Credit Agreement with General Electric Capital Corporation to refinance its existing credit facility on September 26, 2007. The new credit facility consists of a \$200 million senior secured revolving credit facility (including a \$20 million letter of credit sub-facility). Borrowings under the revolving credit facility are limited to the sum of (a) a specified percentage of eligible credit card receivables, (b) a specified percentage of the net recovery value of eligible inventory, as determined by periodic valuation performed by an independent appraiser, and (c) 65% of the fair market value of the Company's real estate. Such borrowings are further limited by a requirement to maintain a minimum of \$15 million of excess availability at all times, and other reserves. Substantially all of the Company's assets, including its merchandise inventories, are pledged under the credit facility.

As of February 2, 2008, outstanding borrowings under the new credit facility totaled \$93.9 million, and availability for additional borrowings under the credit facility, after the deduction of the minimum availability requirement and other reserves, was \$40.2 million. Interest charged on amounts borrowed under the credit facility is at the prime rate, or at the Company's option, at the applicable LIBOR rate plus 1.25% per annum. In addition, the Company pays an unused commitment fee equal to 0.20% per annum on the average unused daily balance of the credit facility. The interest rate is adjusted upwards or downwards on a quarterly basis based on a pricing matrix, which is tied to the Company's daily average excess availability for the preceding fiscal quarter (as defined in the agreement). Under the pricing matrix, the applicable interest rate could range from a rate as low as prime or LIBOR plus 1.25%, to as high as prime plus 0.5%, or LIBOR plus 2.5%.

The new credit facility contains restrictive financial and operating covenants, including the requirement to maintain a fixed charge coverage ratio of 1:1 (as defined in the agreement) if the Company's excess borrowing availability is below \$20 million. As of February 2, 2008, the Company was in compliance with all restrictive financial covenants applicable to the credit facility. The agreement has a five year term expiring September 26, 2012.

## Old Senior Revolving Credit Facility

From January 26, 2006 to September 26, 2007, the credit facility, as amended on January 26, 2006, consisted of a revolving credit facility of up to \$172 million (including a \$20 million letter of credit sub-facility) and a fully funded term loan of \$9 million. Borrowings under the revolving credit facility, as amended, were limited to the sum of (a) a specified percentage of eligible credit card receivables, (b) the lesser of specified percentages of (i) the cost of eligible inventory and (ii) the net recovery value of the inventory, as determined by periodic valuation performed by an

independent appraiser, and (c) the lesser of (i) up to 60% of the fair market value of the designated properties and (ii) \$21.6 million. Such borrowings were further limited by a requirement to maintain a minimum of \$5 million of excess availability at all times, and other reserves that were in effect. Substantially all of the Company's assets, including its merchandise inventories, were pledged under the credit facility.

On September 26, 2007, interest charged on amounts borrowed under the revolving portion of the credit facility were at the prime rate, or at the Company's option, at the applicable LIBOR rate plus 1.25% per annum, and interest charged on the term loan was a fixed rate of 6.6% per annum. In addition, the Company paid an unused commitment fee equal to 0.375% per annum on the average unused daily balance of the revolving portion of the credit facility. The interest rate applicable to the revolving portion of the credit facility was adjusted upwards or downwards on a quarterly basis based on a pricing matrix which was tied to the Company's daily average excess availability for the preceding fiscal quarter (as defined in the agreement). Under the pricing matrix, the applicable interest rate could have ranged from a rate as low as prime or LIBOR plus 1.25%, to as high as prime plus 0.5%, or LIBOR plus 2.5%.

The credit facility, as amended, contained restrictive financial and operating covenants, including the requirement to maintain a fixed charge coverage ratio of 1:1 (as defined in the agreement) if the Company's excess borrowing availability was below \$15 million.

### Long-Term Obligations

Long-term obligations consist of the following:

(In thousands)		February 2, 2008		February 3, 2007
Capital lease obligations	\$	8,224	\$	8,644
7.5% note payable due 2010		1,710		2,442
Other mortgage loans and notes payable		3,640		4,182
		13,574		15,268
Less current portion		(1,525)		(1,676)
	\$	12,049	\$	13,592

In fiscal 2006, the Company paid off \$16.6 million of 9.39% mortgage loans on February 1, 2006 with funds from the Company's revolving credit facility. Also in fiscal 2006, the Company financed a corporate aircraft with a 6.64% \$3.0 million note. The scheduled annual principal maturities of the Company's notes payable are \$1,275,000, \$1,317,000, \$575,000, \$539,000 and \$576,000 for 2008 through 2012, with \$1,067,000 payable thereafter.

Deferred debt issuance costs related to the Company's various financing arrangements are included in other current and long-term assets and are charged to income as additional interest expense over the life of the related indebtedness. Such costs, net of accumulated amortization, totaled \$1,885,000 at February 2, 2008 and \$1,181,000 at February 3, 2007.

Interest paid, net of amounts capitalized, was \$8,580,000 in 2007, \$9,842,000 in 2006, and \$8,466,000 in 2005. The Company capitalized \$21,000 in interest in connection with leasehold improvements at a new store and major remodels performed at two store locations in fiscal 2007. No interest was capitalized in 2006. In 2005, \$114,000 interest was capitalized. The weighted-average interest rate charged on the Company's revolving line of credit was 6.91% in 2007, 7.10% in 2006 and 5.98% in 2005.

Substantially all of the Company's assets, including its merchandise inventories, are pledged as collateral under the Company's various debt agreements. Certain of the Company's long-term debt agreements contain financial and other restrictive covenants, as well as cross-default provisions. Accordingly, the failure to comply with these restrictions and covenants, if not waived, would cause a cross-default under the majority of all of the Company's debt agreements, including the credit facility. The Company was in compliance with all applicable financial covenants as of February 2, 2008.



## 6. INTEREST RATE DERIVATIVE

On December 9, 2005 the Company entered into an interest rate swap agreement, effective December 14, 2005, to change the fixed/variable interest rate mix of the debt portfolio in order to maintain the percentage of fixed-rate and variable-rate debt within parameters set by management. The Company currently has an interest rate swap contract outstanding to effectively convert a portion of its variable-rate debt to fixed-rate debt. This contract entails the exchange of fixed-rate and floating-rate interest payments periodically over the agreement life. The following table indicates the notional amount as of February 2, 2008 and the range of interest rates paid and received by the Company during the fiscal year then ended:

Fixed swap (notional amount)	\$25,000,000
Range of receive rate	5.06% - 5.70%
Pay rate	4.99%

In accordance with SFAS No. 133, "Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities" ("SFAS No. 133"), and SFAS No. 138, "Accounting for Certain Derivative Instruments and Certain Hedging Activities," the Company recognizes all derivatives on the balance sheet at fair value. Although the swap essentially provides for matched terms to its underlying obligation, it does not qualify for hedge accounting under SFAS No. 133.

The \$25 million interest rate swap will expire February 2, 2009. The net income or expense from the exchange of interest rate payments is included in interest expense. The estimated fair value of the interest rate swap agreement, based on dealer quotes, at February 2, 2008 was a loss of \$526,000 and represents the amount the Company would pay if the agreement was terminated as of that date. Changes in the fair value of derivatives not designated as qualifying cash flow hedges are reported in interest expense. Accordingly, interest expense for fiscal 2007 includes losses related to the interest rate swap of \$624,000, and as of February 2, 2008 the Company reflected a derivative liability in other liabilities of \$526,000 to recognize the fair value of the interest rate swap. All credits recorded pursuant to SFAS No. 133 are considered non-cash items in the statements of cash flows.

## 7. SUBORDINATED NOTE PAYABLE TO AFFILIATE

El Corte Ingles ("ECI") of Spain, and Harris, a wholly owned subsidiary of ECI, became affiliates of the Company in fiscal 1998 when the Company acquired substantially all of the assets and business of Harris. The Company issued a Subordinated Note to Harris, in the principal amount of \$22,179,000 as partial consideration for the Harris acquisition (the "Original Note"). The Original Note bore interest at a fixed rate of 8%. On December 7, 2004 a new Subordinated Note due May 30, 2009 superseded the Original Note. The new Subordinated Note bears interest at a fixed rate of 8% payable semi-annually and provides for principal payments of up to \$8.0 million prior to its maturity. Such payments are subject to certain liquidity restrictions under the revolving credit facility. The Company made principal payments of \$1.0 million each upon execution of the note, on February 20, 2006, on February 20, 2007, and a principal payment of \$2.0 million subsequent to fiscal year end on February 20, 2008, as scheduled. An additional principal payment of \$2.0 million is scheduled for February 2009, with the balance due at maturity subject to the payment in full of the revolving credit facility. The Subordinated Note is unsecured, contains no restrictive financial covenants and is subordinate to the payment of all debt, including trade credit, of the Company. Interest paid to Harris totaled \$1,494,000 in 2007, \$1,574,400 in 2006, and \$1,679,500 in 2005.

## 8. LEASES

The Company leases certain retail department stores, specialty stores, land, furniture and fixtures and equipment under capital and noncancelable operating leases that expire in various years through 2025. Certain of the leases provide for the payment of additional contingent rentals based on a percentage of sales, require the payment of property taxes, insurance and maintenance costs and have renewal options for one or more periods ranging from five to twenty years.



The Company leases three of its department stores from ECI, an affiliate of the Company. See Note 7. Rent paid or accrued to ECI totaled \$868,000 in 2007, \$888,000 in 2006, and \$874,000 in 2005. The Company plans to close two of these stores at the end of their lease terms during the second quarter of fiscal 2008.

Edgar Filing: GOTTSCHALKS INC - Form 10-K

Future minimum lease payments as of February 2, 2008, by year and in the aggregate, under capital leases and noncancelable operating leases with initial or remaining terms in excess of one year are as follows:

(In thousands)	Capital Leases	Operating Leases
2008	\$ 1,376	\$ 23,412
2009	1,376	22,096
2010	1,417	20,005
2011	1,476	18,544
2012	1,476	15,534
Thereafter	14,110	100,717
Total minimum lease payments	21,231	\$ 200,308
Amount representing interest	(13,007)	
Present value of minimum lease payments	8,224	
Less current portion	(249)	
	\$ 7,975	

Rental expense associated with operating leases consists of the following:

(In thousands)	Fiscal Years		
	2007	2006	2005
Buildings:			
Minimum rentals	\$ 22,360	\$ 23,352	\$ 23,430
Contingent rentals	2,673	3,579	3,175
Fixtures and equipment	1,985	2,039	2,057
	\$ 27,018	\$ 28,970	\$ 28,662

One of the Company's lease agreements contains a restrictive financial covenant pertaining to the debt to tangible net worth ratio that management believes the Company was in compliance with at February 2, 2008.

## 9. DISCONTINUED OPERATIONS

The Company closed one underperforming Seattle/Tacoma market during the first quarter of fiscal 2006 and one underperforming store in the Seattle metro-area during the third quarter of fiscal 2006. During fiscal 2005, the Company closed two underperforming stores in the Seattle/Tacoma market. These stores were determined to be either underperforming or inconsistent with the Company's long-term operating strategy and due to the Company's exit from the respective market areas are considered discontinued operations. The loss from operations of discontinued stores includes only revenues generated from, and expenses directly associated with, the operation of such stores and consists of the following:

(In thousands)	Fiscal Years		
	2007	2006	2005
Net sales from closed stores	\$ -	\$ 2,921	\$ 11,480
Cost of sales	-	2,421	7,442

Edgar Filing: GOTTSCHALKS INC - Form 10-K

Selling, general and administrative expenses	-	1,533	5,235
Depreciation and amortization	-	69	412
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Total costs and expenses	-	4,023	13,089
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Loss from operations of closed stores	\$ -	\$ (1,102)	\$ (1,609)
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

59

---

The loss on store closures of \$98,000 includes a net gain on the sale of the building associated with the store closed during the first quarter of fiscal 2006 of approximately \$147,000, offset by a loss on disposal of assets of \$139,000 related to the store closed during the third quarter of fiscal 2006, and store closure costs of approximately \$106,000 related to both stores closed in fiscal 2006, primarily consisting of severance and other incremental costs associated with the store closings.

Net costs associated with the closure of stores in fiscal 2005 were \$0.1 million, consisting of severance and other incremental costs associated with the store closings. Such costs were offset by \$0.3 million of income from an early termination fee received when the landlord exercised its right to terminate the lease. Net costs associated with the closure of stores were minor in fiscal 2004, primarily consisting of incremental costs associated with the closure of one store at January 31, 2004.

In addition, the Company closed one store in Wasilla, Alaska during the first quarter of fiscal 2007, one store in Tacoma, Washington during the third quarter of fiscal 2007, and one store each in Danville, California and Moscow, Idaho in the third and fourth quarters of fiscal 2006. The Company also closed one store in Fresno, California during the first quarter of fiscal 2005. These closures are not reported as discontinued operations due to the shift of revenues to other stores in the respective markets. The Company has plans to close two stores in California during the second quarter of 2008 at the end of their lease terms. These closures are not considered discontinued operations as the Company has remaining stores in the market areas.

Certain of the Company's stores may perform below expectations from time to time. In the event the Company is unable to improve the operating performance of such underperforming stores, the Company may consider the sale, sublease or closure of those stores in the future.

## 10. INCOME TAXES

The components of income tax expense (benefit) from continuing operations are as follows:

(In thousands)	Fiscal Years		
	2007	2006	2005
Current:			
Federal	\$ (2,145)	\$ 1,870	\$ 2,468
State	(79)	(127)	562
	<u>(2,224)</u>	<u>1,743</u>	<u>3,030</u>
Non Current:			
Federal	(935)	-	-
State	(209)	-	-
	<u>(1,144)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Deferred:			
Federal	(3,664)	(445)	924
State	(950)	333	(847)
	<u>(4,614)</u>	<u>(112)</u>	<u>77</u>
	\$ <u>(7,982)</u>	\$ <u>1,631</u>	\$ <u>3,107</u>



Edgar Filing: GOTTSCHALKS INC - Form 10-K

Income tax expense varies from the amount computed by applying the statutory federal income tax rate to income from continuing operations before income taxes. The reasons for this difference are as follows:

	Fiscal Years		
	2007	2006	2005
Statutory rate	35.0 %	35.0 %	35.0 %
State income taxes, net of federal income tax benefit	4.0	3.5	(2.4)
General business credits	0.8	(5.6)	(2.6)
Valuation allowance	-	(6.1)	4.6
Increase in tax reserve	-	6.4	
Other items, net	(0.7)	(1.6)	(1.1)
Effective rate	39.1 %	31.6 %	33.5 %

The principal components of deferred tax assets and liabilities are as follows (in thousands):

	February 2, 2008		February 3, 2007	
	Deferred Tax Assets	Deferred Tax Liabilities	Deferred Tax Assets	Deferred Tax Liabilities
<b>Current:</b>				
Accrued employee benefits	\$ 1,216	\$	\$ 1,469	\$
Net operating loss and tax credit carryforwards	-		289	
State income taxes	360		355	
LIFO inventory reserve		(6,630)		(6,630)
Workers' compensation	2,612		3,086	
Legal reserve	106		160	
Deferred income	1,341		1,172	
Valuation allowance	(459)		(916)	
Other items, net	872	(2,514)	492	(3,018)
	<u>6,048</u>	<u>(9,144)</u>	<u>6,107</u>	<u>(9,648)</u>
<b>Long-Term:</b>				
Net operating loss and tax credit carryforwards	9,346	-	4,037	
State income taxes	-	(81)	226	
Property and equipment		(9,609)		(9,468)
Accounting for leases	2,024	(549)	1,066	(2,089)
Leasehold interests	109	-	192	
Deferred income	629	(4,641)	414	(4,316)
Acquisition costs	-	(1,670)	-	(1,435)
Valuation allowance	(2,071)		(772)	
Other items, net	1,790	(239)	999	(165)
	<u>11,827</u>	<u>(16,789)</u>	<u>6,162</u>	<u>(17,473)</u>
	\$ 17,875	\$ (25,933)	\$ 12,269	\$ (27,121)

As a result of certain realization requirements of SFAS 123(R), the table of deferred tax assets and liabilities shown above does not include certain deferred tax assets at February 2, 2008 that arose directly from tax deductions related to equity compensation in excess of compensation recognized for financial reporting. Equity will be increased by

approximately \$350,000 if, and when, such deferred tax assets are ultimately realized.

The federal and state net operating loss carryforwards per the income tax returns included uncertain tax positions taken in prior years. The net operating loss and tax credit carryforwards in the table of deferred tax assets and liabilities shown above are presented on a tax return basis. All other deferred tax assets and liabilities included in the table above have been adjusted by the respective FIN 48 liabilities.

The carrying value of the Company's net deferred tax assets assumes that the Company will be able to generate sufficient future taxable income to realize the value of these assets. In determining the appropriate valuation allowance, management considers all available evidence for the deferred tax assets, including tax credits, net operating loss and capital loss carryforwards that would likely expire prior to their utilization. The Company has established valuation allowances that relate primarily to certain state tax credit carryforwards the realization of which is uncertain. Although these credits do not expire, the utilization is extremely limited and is available only to the extent the Company generates sufficient taxable income apportionable to the respective location. The Company has historically generated the credits at a substantially more rapid rate than it has been able to utilize them. The resulting utilization period is, therefore, unusually long. Although the Company has had, prior to the fiscal 2007 loss, recent profitability, there can be no certainty that the Company will continue to generate sufficient taxable income apportioned to specific locations for an indefinite period of time to fully utilize the state tax credit carryforwards, especially given the cyclical nature of the company's business. Further, there is no certainty that the Company will operate in these specific locations for an extended period. To the extent that the Company no longer operates within these locations, the tax credits cannot be utilized.

In addition, the Company has generated certain capital losses for which there is currently no carryback opportunity available. Based on the Company's current operating strategy it appears more likely than not that there will be no opportunity available during the remaining carryforward period to generate offsetting capital gains. Accordingly the Company considers it appropriate to establish a valuation allowance against such carryforwards. Management believes it is more likely than not that the Company will generate sufficient future taxable income in the appropriate carryforward periods to realize the benefit of its remaining net deferred tax assets. However, if the available evidence were to change in the future, an adjustment to the valuation allowance may be required, resulting in additional income tax expense or benefit. Certain valuation allowances were increased by approximately \$842,000 in the current year due primarily to a reduction in the Company's assessment of future income.

In June 2006, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued Financial Interpretation No. (FIN) 48, "Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes," which clarifies the accounting for uncertainty in income taxes recognized in an enterprise's financial statements in accordance with FASB Statement No. 109, "Accounting for Income Taxes." The interpretation prescribes a "more likely than not" recognition threshold and measurement attribute for the financial statement recognition and measurement of a tax position taken or expected to be taken in a tax return. FIN 48 applies to all tax positions related to income taxes subject to FAS 109 and creates a single model to address accounting for uncertainty in tax positions. FIN 48 requires that tax positions accounted for under FAS 109 be evaluated for recognition based solely on technical merits and the resulting tax benefits be measured using a cumulative probability assessment and the Company's plan for settlement. The Company adopted FIN 48 effective February 4, 2007. The adoption of FIN 48 did not have a material effect on the Company's unrecognized tax benefit or retained earnings.

The Company has an unrecognized tax benefit at February 2, 2008 of approximately \$1.2 million, exclusive of interest, reported in the Balance Sheet in Other Liabilities. Of this amount, the amount that would impact the Company's effective tax rate, if recognized, is \$0.1 million. The Company estimates that the unrecognized tax benefit will not change significantly within the next twelve months. A reconciliation of the beginning and ending amount of unrecognized tax benefits is as follows (in thousands):

Unrecognized tax benefit - adoption opening balance	\$	2,371
Gross Increase - tax positions in prior period		71
Gross Decrease - tax positions in prior period		(1,058)
Gross Increases - tax positions in current period		26



Edgar Filing: GOTTSCHALKS INC - Form 10-K

Settlements with taxing authorities		-
Lapse of statute limitations		(172)
		<hr/>
Unrecognized tax benefit - ending balance	\$	1,238
		<hr/>

The Company's policy is to recognize interest and penalties accrued on any unrecognized tax benefits as a component of income tax expense. Total accrued interest included in the FIN 48 liability was \$0.3 million and \$0.2 million at February 4, 2007 and February 2, 2008. No penalties were accrued at February 4, 2007 and February 2, 2008.

The Company files its tax returns as prescribed by the tax laws of the jurisdiction in which it operates. The Company is no longer subject to U.S. federal tax examinations for years before fiscal 2004 while the fiscal 2004 through 2006 tax years are subject to examination. For the various state jurisdictions, tax years from fiscal 2003 through 2006 remain open to examination as well, although the Company believes any potential assessment would not have a material impact on the Company's financial position or results of operations.

At February 2, 2008, the Company has, for federal tax purposes, net operating loss carryforwards of approximately \$2.2 million which expire in the year 2027, general business credits of approximately \$3.6 million that expire in the year 2010 through 2027, and alternative minimum tax credits of \$0.6 million which may be used for an indefinite period. At February 2, 2008, the Company also has, for state tax purposes, net operating loss carryforwards of approximately \$15.8 million which expire in the year 2016 and 2017 and \$3.0 million of state tax credits which may be used for an indefinite period. These carryforwards are available to offset future taxable income.

The Company paid income taxes, net of refunds, of \$449,000 in fiscal 2007, \$1,830,000 in fiscal 2006 and \$12,000 in fiscal 2005.

#### 11. SHARE REPURCHASE PROGRAM

The Company's Board of Directors announced its share repurchase program in September 2007, which allows for the repurchase of up to 2 million shares over 12 months subject to certain pricing conditions. During fiscal 2007, the Company repurchased 417,800 shares for \$1,487,000, at an average cost of \$3.56 per share including commissions. Such shares are reflected as treasury stock in the stockholder's equity section of the condensed balance sheet. Purchases may be made at management's discretion in the open market and in privately negotiated transactions as market and business conditions warrant. There were no share repurchases in fiscal 2006 and 2005.

12.

#### WEIGHTED AVERAGE NUMBER OF SHARES

Net income/loss per common share is computed by dividing net income/loss by the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding during the period. Stock options represent potential common shares and are included in computing diluted earnings per share when the effect is dilutive and the Company reports net income. A reconciliation of the weighted-average shares used in the basic and diluted earnings per share calculation is as follows:

	Fiscal Years		
	2007	2006	2005
Basic calculation	13,600,718	13,428,279	13,245,321
Effect of dilutive shares - options	-	329,799	552,561
Diluted calculation	13,600,718	13,758,078	13,797,882

Options with an exercise price greater than the average market price of the Company's common stock during the period, or outstanding in a period in which the Company reports a net loss, are excluded from the computation of the

Edgar Filing: GOTTSCHALKS INC - Form 10-K

weighted average number of shares on a diluted basis, as such options are antidilutive. The following shares were antidilutive and, therefore, not included in the computation of diluted earnings per share for the periods indicated:

	Fiscal Years		
	2007	2006	2005
Antidilutive shares - options	1,052,775 63	310,318	183,463

---

Edgar Filing: GOTTSCHALKS INC - Form 10-K

Certain of the shares noted above were excluded from the computation of dilutive shares solely due to the Company's net loss position during these periods. The following table shows the approximate effect of dilutive shares had the Company reported a profit for these periods:

	Fiscal Years		
	2007	2006	2005
Effect of dilutive shares - options	246,859	N/A	N/A

13.

**STOCK OPTION AND STOCK PURCHASE PLANS**

The Company has certain stock option plans and an Employee Stock Purchase Plan, as described below. All of these plans have been approved by the Company's stockholders.

**Stock Option Plans**

The Company has stock option plans for directors, officers and key employees which provide for the grant of non-qualified and incentive stock options. Under the plans, the option exercise price may not be lower than 100% of the fair market value of such shares at the date of the grant. Options granted generally vest on a ratable basis over four years and expire ten years from the date of the grant. At February 2, 2008, options for 1,432,500 shares were available for future grants under the plans.

Option activity under the plans is as follows:

	Fiscal Years					
	2007		2006		2005	
	Number of Shares	Weighted-Average Exercise Price	Number of Shares	Weighted-Average Exercise Price	Number of Shares	Weighted-Average Exercise Price
Options outstanding at beginning of year	1,159,375	\$ 6.43	1,400,475	\$ 6.19	1,547,750	\$ 4.99
Granted	5,000	4.26	2,500	8.60	310,000	10.37
Exercised	(120,125)	5.60	(196,100)	4.58	(319,400)	4.88
Cancelled	(18,000)	6.33	(47,500)	7.10	(137,875)	6.70
Options outstanding at end of year	1,026,250	\$ 6.52	1,159,375	\$ 6.43	1,400,475	\$ 6.19
Options exercisable at end of year	841,375	\$ 5.96	812,375	\$ 5.77	777,100	\$ 5.45

The intrinsic value of options exercised during fiscal 2007, 2006, and 2005 was \$890,600, \$898,100, and \$1,558,700, respectively.

Edgar Filing: GOTTSCHALKS INC - Form 10-K

A summary of the status of nonvested shares under the plans as of February 2, 2008, and changes during the year then ended, is presented below:

	Number of Shares		Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value
Nonvested at February 3, 2007	347,000	\$	4.85
Granted	5,000		2.25
Vested	(161,625)		3.84
Forfeited	(5,500)		5.39
Nonvested at February 2, 2008	184,875	\$	5.79

Additional information regarding options outstanding as of February 2, 2008 is as follows:

Range of Exercise Prices	Number Outstanding	Weighted- Average Remaining Contractual Life (yrs.)		Weighted- Average Exercise Price
\$1.13 to \$4.25	261,375	4.56	\$	2.62
\$4.41 to \$6.03	298,875	4.10	\$	5.47
\$6.19 to \$10.48	436,000	4.37	\$	9.21
\$11.75 to \$11.75	30,000	7.39	\$	11.75
\$1.13 to \$11.75	1,026,250	4.43	\$	6.52

#### Employee Stock Purchase Plan

The Company also has a statutory Employee Stock Purchase Plan, which allows its employees to purchase Company common stock at a 15% discount. Employees can purchase stock under the Plan through payroll deductions ranging from 1% to 10% of their annual compensation, up to a maximum of \$21,250 per employee per year. A total of 500,000 shares were originally registered under the Plan, with 346,324 shares issued through February 2, 2008.

The 15% discount of the stock price makes the Plan compensatory. As such, the fair value of the discount, as determined under the Black-Scholes model, is expensed as compensation under the provisions of SFAS 123R. Compensation expense related to shares purchased under the Employee Stock Purchase Plan was \$19,800 and \$19,000 in fiscal 2007 and 2006, respectively.

#### Accounting for Stock Based Compensation

As discussed previously, the Company adopted SFAS 123R on January 29, 2006. SFAS 123R requires all share-based payments to employees be recognized in the financial statements as compensation expense based on the fair value on the date of grant.

The Company determines fair value of such awards using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model. The Company uses historical data to estimate expected term of the awards and forfeiture rates, stratified into separate groups based on similar exercise and termination patterns. Expected stock volatility is based upon historical volatility of the Company's stock and other factors. The risk-free interest rate is based on the yield curve in effect at the time the options are granted, using U.S. constant maturities over the expected life of the option. The Company has historically not paid dividends and does not anticipate paying dividends during the expected term. Accordingly, the expected dividend yield is zero. Options to purchase 5,000, 2,500, and 310,000 shares were granted during fiscal years 2007, 2006, and 2005, respectively. The estimated fair value of these option awards was calculated using the following weighted

average assumptions:

65

---

	Fiscal Years		
	2007	2006	2005
Risk-free interest rate	3.0 %	4.6 %	3.8 %
Expected dividend yield	-	-	-
Expected volatility	42.3 %	42.2 %	56.1 %
Expected option life (years)	8.6	4.6	5.0

The weighted average fair values of options on their grant date during fiscal 2007, 2006, and 2005, where the exercise price equaled the market price on the date of grant, were \$2.25, \$3.54, and \$6.39, respectively.

The Company recognized share-based compensation of approximately \$397,000 and \$791,000 in fiscal 2007 and 2006, respectively, as a component of selling, general, and administrative expense. As of February 2, 2008, there was \$224,000 of unrecognized compensation cost related to non-vested awards granted under the plans. That cost is expected to be recognized over a remaining term of approximately 2 years. The total fair value of shares vested during the years ended February 2, 2008, February 3, 2007, and January 28, 2006, was \$620,000, \$693,000, and \$344,000, respectively.

#### 14. RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN

The Company has a Retirement Savings Plan ("Plan") which qualifies as an employee retirement plan under Section 401(k) of the Internal Revenue Code. Full-time employees meeting certain requirements are eligible to participate in the Plan and may elect to have up to 20% of their annual eligible compensation, subject to statutory limitations, deferred and deposited with a qualified trustee. Participants in the Plan may receive an employer matching contribution of up to 4% of the participants' eligible compensation, depending on the Company's quarterly and annual financial performance. Beginning 2001, the Company amended the Plan to provide for a guaranteed annual match of 3%, including the ability for participants to earn an additional 1% depending on the Company's annual financial performance. The Company recognized \$1,187,000, \$1,201,000, and \$1,139,000 in expense related to the Plan in fiscal 2007, 2006, and 2005, respectively.

#### 15. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Company owns a 36% interest in Park 41, a limited partnership that owns, leases and operates the office building in which the Company's headquarters are located. River Park Properties I owns the remaining 64% interest in Park 41. River Park Properties I is also a limited partner in River Park Properties II, which wholly-owns River Park Properties VII. The Company leases a store in Fresno, California from River Park Properties VII. The Company receives cash distributions of approximately \$500,000, recognizes income of approximately \$300,000, and pays rents of approximately \$1.3 million annually related to its corporate office lease with the Park 41 partnership. The Company also paid rents of \$1.3 million in fiscal 2007 and 2006, and \$0.6 million in fiscal 2005, to River Park Properties VII related to the leased store in Fresno, California.

In the normal course of business, the Company purchases goods from Harris, an affiliate of the Company owning approximately 16% of common stock (see Note 7). These purchases totaled \$287,000 in fiscal 2007.

16.

#### COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

On September 19, 2005, the Company became subject to a complaint filed in the Superior Court of California for the County of Santa Cruz alleging violation of California law regarding payment of accrued vacation upon termination of employment. The complaint seeks wage payments for employees who allegedly forfeited accrued vacation, waiting time penalties, interest, injunctive relief and costs. The Company believed settlement of this matter was in its best

interest and entered into a memorandum of understanding for class settlement, which was given final court approval in September 2006. The Company accrued \$1.8 million during the fourth quarter of fiscal 2005 for estimated legal fees and settlement costs and an additional \$60,000 in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2006. All payments were made in December 2006 and final accounting for actual expenses took place in fiscal 2007.



The Company is party to other legal proceedings and claims which have arisen during the ordinary course of business. In the opinion of management, the ultimate outcome of such litigation and claims is not expected to have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial position or results of its operations.

In the fourth quarter of fiscal 2007, the Company signed a ground lease for a new store in Bend, Oregon. The Company plans to construct a 55,000 square foot store at a cost of \$6.8 million, including fixtures. The Company will own the building and anticipates that it will open in late fall 2008.

As of February 2, 2008, the Company had outstanding a total of \$1.5 million of standby letters of credit and documentary letters of credit totaling \$1.3 million. As of February 3, 2007, the Company had issued a total of \$1.5 million of standby letters of credit and documentary letters of credit totaling \$0.7 million. The standby letters of credit were issued to provide collateral for workers' compensation insurance policies. Management believes the likelihood of any draws under the workers' compensation standby letters of credit are remote. Documentary letters of credit are issued in the ordinary course of business to facilitate the purchase of merchandise from overseas suppliers. The supplier draws against the documentary letter of credit upon delivery of the merchandise.

**SCHEDULE II - VALUATION AND QUALIFYING ACCOUNTS**

## GOTTSCHALKS INC.

COL. A	COL. B	COL. C	COL. D	COL. E	COL. F
Description	Balance at Beginning of Period	Charged to Costs and Expenses	Charged to Other Accounts Describe	Deductions Describe	Balance at End of Period
<b>ADDITIONS</b>					
Year ended February 2, 2008:					
Deferred tax asset valuation allowance	\$ 1,688,000	\$ 584,000 (1)\$	258,000 (2)	\$ -	\$ 2,530,000
Allowance for vendor claims receivable	\$ 80,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 80,000
Sales return reserve	\$ 248,000	\$ 224,000 (3)\$	1,059,000 (3)	\$ -	\$ 1,531,000
Year ended February 3, 2007:					
Deferred tax asset valuation allowance	\$ 1,864,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (176,000) (5)	\$ 1,688,000
Allowance for vendor claims receivable	\$ 90,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (10,000) (4)	\$ 80,000
Sales return reserve	\$ 98,000	\$ 150,000 (6)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 248,000
Year ended January 28, 2006:					
Deferred tax asset valuation allowance	\$ 2,254,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (390,000) (5)	\$ 1,864,000
Allowance for vendor claims receivable	\$ 90,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 90,000
Sales return reserve	\$ 87,000	\$ 11,000 (6)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 98,000

1. Represents increases to valuation allowance related to the future utilization of state tax credits.
2. Represents an increase to valuation allowance for certain capital loss carryforwards determined under FIN 48.
3. In fiscal 2007, the Company revised its sales return reserve estimate to reflect gross sales that are expected to be returned in a future period. Previously, the reserve reflected the net margin effect of future returns. Accordingly, as of February 2, 2008, both inventory and the sales return reserve increased by \$1,059,000 representing the cost of the inventory to be returned.
4. Represents changes in estimate for the allowance for vendor claims receivable.
5. Represents decreases to the deferred tax asset valuation allowance as a result of a partial release of allowances related to certain of the Company's state tax credit carry forwards, partially offset by the addition of allowances related to the Company's capital loss carry forwards.
6. Represents changes in estimate for reserve of sales returns.



SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

Dated: April 10, 2008

GOTTSCHALKS Inc.

By: /s/ James R. Famalette

James R. Famalette

*Chairman and Chief Executive Officer*

Pursuant to the requirements of the Exchange Act, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

<u>Signature</u>	<u>Title</u>
<u>/s/ James R. Famalette</u>	
James R. Famalette	
	Chairman and Chief Executive Officer (principal executive officer)
	April 10, 2008
<u>/s/ Daniel T. Warzenski</u>	
Daniel T. Warzenski	
	Vice President and Chief Financial Officer (principal financial and accounting officer)
	April 10, 2008
<u>/s/ Joseph W. Levy</u>	
Joseph W. Levy	
	Chairman emeritus
	April 10, 2008
<u>/s/ Joseph J. Penbera</u>	

Joseph J. Penbera

Lead Director

April 10, 2008

/s/ Sharon Levy

Sharon Levy

Director

April 10, 2008

/s/ James L. Czech

James L. Czech

Director

April 10, 2008

/s/ O. James Woodward III

O. James Woodward III

Director

April 10, 2008

/s/ Frederick R. Ruiz

Frederick R. Ruiz

Director

April 10, 2007

/s/ Philip S. Schlein

Philip S. Schlein

Director

April 10, 2008

/s/ Thomas H. McPeters

Thomas H. McPeters

Director

April 10, 2008

/s/ Dale D. Achabal

>Dale D. Achabal

Director

April 10, 2008

/s/ Jorge Pont Sanchez

Jorge Pont Sanchez

Director

April 10, 2008