

STATION CASINOS INC  
Form 10-Q  
November 08, 2006

## UNITED STATES

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

### FORM 10-Q

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

For the quarterly period ended September 30, 2006

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 000-21640

## STATION CASINOS, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Nevada**

(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)

**88-0136443**

(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)

**2411 West Sahara Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada**

(Address of principal executive offices)

**89102**

(Zip Code)

**(702) 367-2411**

Registrant's telephone number, including area code

Edgar Filing: STATION CASINOS INC - Form 10-Q

N/A

(Former name, former address and former fiscal year, if changed since last report)

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 such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days.

Yes  No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, or a non-accelerated filer. See definition of accelerated filer and large accelerated filer in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer  Accelerated filer  Non-accelerated filer

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

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the issuer's classes of common stock, as of the latest practicable date.

Class	Outstanding at October 31, 2006
Common stock, \$0.01 par value	57,207,653

STATION CASINOS, INC.

INDEX

<b><u>Part I.</u></b>	<b><u>Financial Information</u></b>	
<u>Item 1.</u>	<u>Financial Statements</u>	
	<u>Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets September 30, 2006 (unaudited) and December 31, 2005</u>	3
	<u>Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations (unaudited) Three and nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005</u>	4
	<u>Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows (unaudited) Nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005</u>	5
	<u>Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)</u>	6
<u>Item 2.</u>	<u>Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</u>	21
<u>Item 3.</u>	<u>Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk</u>	36
<u>Item 4.</u>	<u>Controls and Procedures</u>	37
<b><u>Part II.</u></b>	<b><u>Other Information</u></b>	
<u>Item 1.</u>	<u>Legal Proceedings</u>	38
<u>Item 1A.</u>	<u>Risk Factors</u>	38
<u>Item 2.</u>	<u>Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds</u>	38
<u>Item 3.</u>	<u>Defaults Upon Senior Securities</u>	38
<u>Item 4.</u>	<u>Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders</u>	38
<u>Item 5.</u>	<u>Other Information</u>	38
<u>Item 6.</u>	<u>Exhibits</u>	38
<u>Signature</u>		39

**PART I FINANCIAL INFORMATION****Item 1. Financial Statements**

**STATION CASINOS, INC.**  
**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS**  
(amounts in thousands, except share data)

	September 30, 2006 (unaudited)	December 31, 2005
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 95,032	\$ 85,552
Receivables, net	47,846	19,604
Inventories	9,256	6,370
Prepaid gaming tax	22,417	17,942
Prepaid expenses	13,061	9,743
Total current assets	187,612	139,211
Property and equipment, net	2,525,587	1,990,584
Goodwill	154,498	154,498
Land held for development	265,425	252,444
Investments in joint ventures	214,125	129,191
Native American development costs	178,234	165,244
Other assets, net	120,658	97,871
Total assets	\$ 3,646,139	\$ 2,929,043
<b>LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS (DEFICIT) EQUITY</b>		
Current liabilities:		
Current portion of long-term debt	\$ 483	\$ 108
Accounts payable	19,790	12,611
Construction contracts payable	98,452	83,151
Accrued expenses and other current liabilities	146,571	132,895
Total current liabilities	265,296	228,765
Long-term debt, less current portion	3,408,137	1,944,220
Deferred income tax, net	108,301	79,015
Other long-term liabilities, net	55,552	46,229
Total liabilities	3,837,286	2,298,229
Commitments and contingencies		
Stockholders' (deficit) equity:		
Common stock, par value \$0.01; authorized 135,000,000 shares; 80,444,627 and 79,047,602 shares issued	592	578
Treasury stock, 23,237,779 and 10,521,414 shares, at cost	(1,039,155 )	(159,128 )
Additional paid-in capital	574,462	627,352
Deferred compensation - restricted stock		(73,599 )
Accumulated other comprehensive (loss) income	(886 )	24
Retained earnings	273,840	235,587
Total stockholders' (deficit) equity	(191,147 )	630,814
Total liabilities and stockholders' (deficit) equity	\$ 3,646,139	\$ 2,929,043

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these condensed consolidated financial statements.

**STATION CASINOS, INC.**  
**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS**  
(amounts in thousands, except per share data)  
(unaudited)

	Three months ended September 30,		Nine months ended September 30,	
	2006	2005	2006	2005
<b>Operating revenues:</b>				
Casino	\$ 248,836	\$ 206,412	\$ 710,196	\$ 613,321
Food and beverage	57,637	35,789	152,784	109,341
Room	20,867	14,009	59,507	46,071
Other	19,894	14,159	51,728	38,209
Management fees	24,299	24,028	74,183	70,930
Gross revenues	371,533	294,397	1,048,398	877,872
Promotional allowances	(25,565 )	(18,060 )	(68,169 )	(54,107 )
Net revenues	345,968	276,337	980,229	823,765
<b>Operating costs and expenses:</b>				
Casino	93,776	71,737	254,905	213,163
Food and beverage	41,710	25,310	109,709	76,534
Room	8,584	5,159	21,967	15,726
Other	7,801	4,904	19,204	13,222
Selling, general and administrative	64,872	46,076	167,652	134,449
Corporate	12,032	14,592	44,791	42,856
Development	2,104	2,047	6,785	6,749
Depreciation and amortization	36,859	26,053	93,886	75,523
Preopening	(211 )	1,651	27,477	3,454
Loss on asset disposals, net	1,458	3,384	680	3,598
Lease terminations			500	11,654
	268,985	200,913	747,556	596,928
Operating income	76,983	75,424	232,673	226,837
Earnings from joint ventures	9,044	8,956	30,884	28,356
Operating income and earnings from joint ventures	86,027	84,380	263,557	255,193
<b>Other expense:</b>				
Interest expense, net	(52,149 )	(20,466 )	(117,310 )	(58,316 )
Interest and other expense from joint ventures	(1,842 )	(1,473 )	(4,890 )	(5,299 )
Loss on early retirement of debt		(600 )		(1,278 )
	(53,991 )	(22,539 )	(122,200 )	(64,893 )
Income before income taxes	32,036	61,841	141,357	190,300
Income tax provision	(12,807 )	(22,881 )	(54,213 )	(70,091 )
Net income	\$ 19,229	\$ 38,960	\$ 87,144	\$ 120,209
<b>Earnings per common share:</b>				
Basic	\$ 0.35	\$ 0.57	\$ 1.47	\$ 1.77
Diluted	\$ 0.34	\$ 0.56	\$ 1.43	\$ 1.73
<b>Weighted average common shares outstanding:</b>				
Basic	55,003	68,355	59,286	67,901
Diluted	56,712	69,772	61,099	69,302
Dividends paid per common share	\$ 0.29	\$ 0.25	\$ 0.79	\$ 0.67

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these condensed consolidated financial statements.

**STATION CASINOS, INC.**  
**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**  
(amounts in thousands)  
(unaudited)

	<b>Nine Months Ended September 30,</b>	
	<b>2006</b>	<b>2005</b>
<b>Cash flows from operating activities:</b>		
Net income	\$ 87,144	\$ 120,209
<b>Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:</b>		
Depreciation and amortization	93,886	75,523
Loss on early retirement of debt		1,278
Tax benefit from exercise of stock options		24,066
Excess tax benefit from exercise of stock options	(1,758 )	
Share-based compensation	17,856	9,336
Earnings from joint ventures	(25,994 )	(23,057 )
Distributions from joint ventures	815	1,868
Amortization of debt discount, premium and issuance costs	3,456	2,444
<b>Changes in assets and liabilities:</b>		
Receivables, net	(28,242 )	3,165
Inventories and prepaid expenses	(10,679 )	(5,824 )
Deferred income tax	34,777	43,703
Accounts payable	7,179	1,645
Accrued expenses and other current liabilities	8,083	(429 )
Other, net	4,555	4,687
Total adjustments	103,934	138,405
Net cash provided by operating activities	191,078	258,614
<b>Cash flows from investing activities:</b>		
Capital expenditures	(680,050 )	(580,158 )
Construction contracts payable	15,301	52,686
Proceeds from sale of land, property and equipment	1,545	21,673
Investments in joint ventures, net	(12,502 )	
Native American development costs	(12,990 )	(121,847 )
Other, net	(14,109 )	7,247
Net cash used in investing activities	(702,805 )	(620,399 )
<b>Cash flows from financing activities:</b>		
Redemption of senior and senior subordinated notes		(34,272 )
Proceeds from the issuance of senior and senior subordinated notes, net	698,500	358,250
Borrowings under bank facility with maturity dates less than three months, net	757,200	74,000
Exercise of stock options	1,109	14,151
Excess tax benefit from exercise of stock options	1,758	
Debt issuance costs	(8,349 )	(4,211 )
Payment of dividends	(48,891 )	(45,523 )
Purchase of treasury stock	(880,027 )	(3,248 )
Other, net	(93 )	(192 )
Net cash provided by financing activities	521,207	358,955
<b>Cash and cash equivalents:</b>		
Increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	9,480	(2,830 )
Balance, beginning of period	85,552	68,417
Balance, end of period	\$ 95,032	\$ 65,587
<b>Supplemental cash flow disclosures:</b>		
Cash paid for interest, net of \$23,617 and \$13,528 capitalized	\$ 106,858	\$ 66,663
Cash paid for income taxes, net	\$ 34,283	\$ 2,149
Capital expenditures financed by debt	\$ 9,873	\$ 3,467
Land contributed to joint venture	\$ 47,340	\$

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these condensed consolidated financial statements.



**STATION CASINOS, INC.**  
**NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**(unaudited)**

**1. Basis of Presentation**

Station Casinos, Inc. (the Company), a Nevada corporation, is a gaming and entertainment company that currently owns and operates nine major hotel/casino properties (one of which is 50% owned) and seven smaller casino properties (two of which are 50% owned), in the Las Vegas metropolitan area, as well as manages a casino for a Native American tribe. The accompanying condensed consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Company, its wholly owned subsidiaries and MPM Enterprises, LLC (which is 50% owned by the Company and required to be consolidated). Investments in all other 50% or less owned affiliated companies are accounted for under the equity method. All significant intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated.

The accompanying condensed consolidated financial statements included herein have been prepared by the Company, without audit, pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission. Certain information and footnote disclosures normally included in financial statements prepared in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles have been condensed or omitted pursuant to such rules and regulations, although the Company believes that the disclosures are adequate to make the information presented not misleading. In the opinion of management, all adjustments (which include normal recurring adjustments) necessary for a fair presentation of the results for the interim periods have been made. The results for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006 are not necessarily indicative of results to be expected for the full fiscal year. These financial statements should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and notes thereto included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2005.

Certain amounts in the condensed consolidated financial statements for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2005 have been reclassified to be consistent with the current year presentation. These reclassifications had no effect on the previously reported net income.

***Recently Issued Accounting Standards***

In September 2006, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (the FASB) issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 157, Fair Value Measurements, (SFAS 157). This statement defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value for both assets and liabilities through a fair value hierarchy and expands disclosure requirements. SFAS 157 is effective for financial statements issued for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007 and interim periods within those fiscal years. The Company is evaluating SFAS 157 and has not yet determined the impact the adoption will have on the consolidated financial statements.

In June 2006, the FASB issued Interpretation No. 48, Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes, (FIN 48). This interpretation, among other things, creates a two step approach for evaluating uncertain tax positions. Recognition (step one) occurs when an enterprise concludes that a tax position, based solely on its technical merits, is more-likely-than-not to be sustained upon examination. Measurement (step two) determines the amount of benefit that more-likely-than-not will be realized upon settlement. Derecognition of a tax position that was previously recognized would occur when a company subsequently determines that a tax position no longer meets the more-likely-than-not threshold of being sustained. FIN 48 specifically prohibits the use of a valuation allowance as a substitute for derecognition of tax positions and it has expanded disclosure requirements. FIN 48 is effective for fiscal years beginning after



## 1. Basis of Presentation (Continued)

December 15, 2006, in which the impact of adoption should be accounted for as a cumulative-effect adjustment to the beginning balance of retained earnings. The Company is evaluating FIN 48 and has not yet determined the impact the adoption will have on the consolidated financial statements.

In December 2004, the FASB issued SFAS 123R, *Share-Based Payment*, replacing and superseding both SFAS 123, *Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation*, and APB Opinion 25, *Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees*. SFAS 123R requires fair value measurement and recognition in the financial statements for all share-based compensation arrangements. SFAS 123R also requires additional disclosures related to income tax effects and cash flows resulting from share-based compensation arrangements. Adoption of SFAS 123R on January 1, 2006 reduced earnings consistent with past pro forma share-based compensation disclosures for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006. See Note 6 for additional information.

## 2. Investments in Joint Ventures

The Company has various investments in 50% owned joint ventures and a 6.7% investment in a joint venture that owns the Palms Casino Resort in Las Vegas, Nevada, which are accounted for under the equity method. Under the equity method, original investments are recorded at cost and adjusted by the Company's share of earnings, losses and distributions of the joint ventures. The investment balance also includes interest capitalized during the construction period. Investments in joint ventures consist of the following (amounts in thousands):

	September 30, 2006 (unaudited)	December 31, 2005
Green Valley Ranch (50.0%)	\$ 127,179	\$ 104,290
Aliante Station (50.0%)	53,968	
Palms Casino Resort (6.7%)	18,034	17,886
Sunset GV (50.0%)	7,938	
Barley's (50.0%)	3,553	3,619
The Greens (50.0%)	3,453	3,396
Investments in joint ventures	\$ 214,125	\$ 129,191

Summarized balance sheet information for the joint ventures is as follows (amounts in thousands):

	September 30, 2006 (unaudited)	December 31, 2005
Current assets	\$ 72,317	\$ 67,436
Property and equipment and other assets, net	1,112,009	835,171
Current liabilities	81,656	74,393
Long-term debt and other liabilities	489,882	384,289
Stockholders' equity	612,788	443,925

## 2. Investments in Joint Ventures (Continued)

Summarized results of operations for the joint ventures are as follows (amounts in thousands, unaudited):

	Three months ended September 30,		Nine months ended September 30,	
	2006	2005	2006	2005
Net revenues	\$ 117,973	\$ 108,996	\$ 362,703	\$ 320,815
Operating costs and expenses	95,565	84,893	281,359	246,819
Operating income	22,408	24,103	81,344	73,996
Interest and other expense, net	(10,770 )	(1,215 )	(16,711 )	(10,245 )
Net income	\$ 11,638	\$ 22,888	\$ 64,633	\$ 63,751

The operating earnings from these joint ventures are shown as a separate line item on the Company's condensed consolidated statements of operations after operating income. In addition, interest and other expense from these joint ventures is shown as a separate component under other income (expense) in the Company's condensed consolidated statements of operations. The following table identifies the total equity earnings from joint ventures (amounts in thousands, unaudited):

	Three months ended September 30,		Nine months ended September 30,	
	2006	2005	2006	2005
Operating earnings from joint ventures	\$ 9,044	\$ 8,956	\$ 30,884	\$ 28,356
Interest and other expense from joint ventures	(1,842 )	(1,473 )	(4,890 )	(5,299 )
Net earnings from joint ventures	\$ 7,202	\$ 7,483	\$ 25,994	\$ 23,057

## 3. Management Fees

The Company manages Thunder Valley on behalf of the United Auburn Indian Community (the "UAIC") and receives a management fee equal to 24% of net income (as defined in the management agreement). The Company is also the managing partner for Green Valley Ranch, Barley's and The Greens and receives a management fee equal to 2% of revenues and approximately 5% of Earnings Before Interest, Taxes, Depreciation and Amortization ("EBITDA") from Green Valley Ranch and 10% of EBITDA from Barley's and The Greens. The Company's management fees are included in net revenues on the Company's condensed consolidated statements of operations.

### *United Auburn Indian Community*

The Company has entered into a Development Services Agreement and a Management Agreement with the UAIC. The Company's seven-year Management Agreement was approved by the National Indian Gaming Commission (the "NIGC") and expires in June 2010. Pursuant to those agreements, and in compliance with a Memorandum of Understanding entered into by the UAIC and Placer County, California, the Company and the UAIC developed Thunder Valley, a gaming and entertainment facility on approximately 49 acres located approximately seven miles north of Interstate 80 on Highway 65, in Placer County, California, near Sacramento, which opened on June 9, 2003.

#### 4. Long-term Debt

Long-term debt consists of the following (amounts in thousands):

	September 30, 2006 (unaudited)	December 31, 2005
Revolving credit facility, \$2.0 billion limit at September 30, 2006, due December 16, 2010, interest at a margin above the Alternate Base Rate or the Eurodollar Rate (7.4% and 5.8% at September 30, 2006 and December 31, 2005, respectively)	\$ 1,087,200	\$ 330,000
6% senior notes, interest payable semi-annually, principal due April 1, 2012, callable April 1, 2008, net of unamortized discount of \$1.3 million and \$1.5 million at September 30, 2006 and December 31, 2005, respectively	448,691	448,542
7¾% senior notes, interest payable semi-annually, principal due August 15, 2016, callable August 15, 2011	400,000	
6½% senior subordinated notes, interest payable semi-annually, principal due February 1, 2014, callable February 1, 2009	450,000	450,000
6⅞% senior subordinated notes, interest payable semi-annually, principal due March 1, 2016, callable March 1, 2009, net of unamortized premium of \$7.6 million and \$8.0 million at September 30, 2006 and December 31, 2005, respectively	707,575	708,003
6⅝% senior subordinated notes, interest payable semi-annually, principal due March 15, 2018, callable March 15, 2011, net of unamortized discount of \$1.5 million at September 30, 2006	298,546	
Other long-term debt, weighted-average interest of 6.0% and 6.4% at September 30, 2006 and December 31, 2005, respectively, maturity dates ranging from 2007 to 2026	17,225	9,244
Total long-term debt	3,409,237	1,945,789
Current portion of long-term debt	(483 )	(108 )
Market value of interest rate swaps	(617 )	(1,461 )
Total long-term debt, net	\$ 3,408,137	\$ 1,944,220

#### *Revolving Facility*

In December 2005, the Company increased its availability under its revolving credit facility (the Revolving Facility) from \$1.0 billion to \$2.0 billion and extended the maturity by one year to December 2010. The Revolving Facility contains no principal amortization. The Borrowers are the major operating subsidiaries and the Revolving Facility is secured by substantially all of the Company's assets. Borrowings under the Revolving Facility bear interest at a margin above the Alternate Base Rate or the Eurodollar Rate (each as defined in the Revolving Facility), as selected by the Company. The margin above such rates, and the fee on the unfunded portions of the Revolving Facility, will vary quarterly based on the Company's combined consolidated ratio of debt to Adjusted EBITDA (as defined in the Revolving Facility). As of September 30, 2006, the Borrowers' margin above the Eurodollar Rate on borrowings under the Revolving Facility was 2.00%. The maximum margin for Eurodollar Rate borrowings is 2.25%. The maximum margin for Alternate Base Rate borrowings is 1.00%. As of September 30, 2006, the fee for the unfunded portion of the Revolving Facility was 0.30%.

The Revolving Facility contains certain financial and other covenants, some of which were amended in June and September 2006. These include a maximum funded debt to Adjusted EBITDA ratio for the Borrowers combined of 4.00 to 1.00 for each quarter and a minimum fixed charge coverage ratio for the

#### 4. Long-term Debt (Continued)

preceding four quarters for the Borrowers combined of 1.25 to 1.00 for each quarter. As of September 30, 2006, the Borrowers' funded debt to Adjusted EBITDA ratio was 2.40 to 1.00 and the fixed charge coverage ratio was 1.72 to 1.00. In addition, the Revolving Facility has financial and other covenants, which require that the maximum consolidated funded debt to Adjusted EBITDA ratio can be no more than 7.00 to 1.00 through June 30, 2007, which reduces to 6.75 to 1.00 on September 30, 2007 through June 30, 2008, to 6.50 to 1.00 on September 30, 2008 through December 31, 2008, to 5.75 to 1.00 on March 31, 2009 through December 31, 2009 and to 5.00 to 1.00 on March 31, 2010. Other covenants limit prepayments of indebtedness or rent (including subordinated debt other than re-financings meeting certain criteria), asset dispositions, dividends, indebtedness, stock repurchases and investments. As of September 30, 2006, the Company's consolidated funded debt to Adjusted EBITDA ratio was 5.94 to 1.00. The Company has pledged the stock of all of its major subsidiaries.

##### *Senior and Senior Subordinated Notes*

On August 15, 2006, the Company issued \$400.0 million of 7¾% senior notes due August 15, 2016. On March 13, 2006, the Company issued \$300.0 million of 6½% senior subordinated notes due March 2018. Proceeds from the sale of the notes were used to reduce a portion of the amount outstanding on the Company's Revolving Facility.

During the nine months ended September 30, 2005, the Company redeemed the remaining \$16.9 million of outstanding 8¾% senior notes due 2008 and \$17.4 million of outstanding 9⅞% senior subordinated notes due 2010. As a result of these redemptions, the Company recorded a loss on early retirement of debt of approximately \$0.6 million and \$1.3 million in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2005 to reflect the write-off of the unamortized loan costs, discounts and call premium.

The indentures (the "Indentures") governing the Company's senior and senior subordinated notes (the "Notes") contain certain customary financial and other covenants, which limit the Company and its subsidiaries' ability to incur additional debt. At September 30, 2006, the Company's Consolidated Coverage Ratio (as defined in the Indentures) was 2.80 to 1.00. The Indentures provide that the Company may not incur additional indebtedness, other than specified types of indebtedness, unless the Consolidated Coverage Ratio is at least 2.00 to 1.00. In the event the Company's Consolidated Coverage Ratio is below 2.00 to 1.00, the covenant limits the Company's ability to incur additional indebtedness for borrowings under the Revolving Facility not to exceed the greater of \$200 million or 1.5 times Operating Cash Flow (as defined in the Indentures) for the four most recent quarters, plus \$15 million. The Indentures also give the holders of the Notes the right to require the Company to purchase the Notes at 101% of the principal amount of the Notes plus accrued interest thereon upon a Change of Control and Rating Decline (each as defined in the Indentures) of the Company. In addition, the indenture governing the senior notes contains a limitation on liens the Company can incur.

##### *Interest Rate Swaps*

The Company has entered into various interest rate swaps with members of its bank group to manage interest expense. As of September 30, 2006, the Company has interest rate swaps with a combined notional amount of \$550.0 million. The Company entered into a fair value hedge interest rate swap with a notional amount of \$50.0 million tied directly to the Company's 6% senior notes converting a portion of the Company's fixed-rate debt to a floating-rate based upon three-month LIBOR rates, terminating in April 2012. This interest rate swap qualifies for the "shortcut" method allowed under SFAS 133, "Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities" (and as amended by SFAS 138 and 149), which allows for an assumption of no ineffectiveness. As such, there is no income statement impact from changes in the fair value of the hedging instrument. Instead, the fair value of the instrument is recorded as

#### 4. Long-term Debt (Continued)

an asset or liability on the Company's balance sheet with an offsetting adjustment to the carrying value of the related debt. In accordance with SFAS 133, the Company recorded a liability of \$2.3 million and \$2.1 million as of September 30, 2006 and December 31, 2005, respectively, representing the fair value of this interest rate swap and a corresponding decrease in long-term debt, as this interest rate swap is considered highly effective under the criteria established by SFAS 133. The Company paid a rate based on LIBOR, which approximated 7.2% as of September 30, 2006 and received a fixed rate of 6.0%.

The Company has entered into two cash flow hedge interest rate swaps with a combined notional amount of \$500.0 million tied directly to the Company's Revolving Facility converting a portion of the Company's floating-rate debt to a fixed-rate based on three-month LIBOR rates, terminating in December 2010. As of September 30, 2006, the Company paid an average fixed rate of 4.9% and received three-month LIBOR which approximated 5.4%. These interest rate swaps are designated and qualify as cash flow hedges resulting in the effective portion of the gain or loss reported as a component of other comprehensive income (loss) with an offsetting adjustment to the carrying value of the related debt. For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006, the Company recorded other comprehensive loss of \$5.8 million and \$1.0 million, respectively, related to the change in market value of these interest rate swaps. As a result, the Company recorded an increase in long-term debt of \$1.7 million as of September 30, 2006 and \$0.8 million as of December 31, 2005.

The difference between amounts received and paid under such agreements, as well as any costs or fees, is recorded as a reduction of, or an addition to, interest expense as incurred over the life of the swaps. The net effect of the interest rate swaps resulted in a reduction of interest expense of approximately \$103,000 and \$21,000 for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006. For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2005, the net effect of the interest rate swaps resulted in a reduction of interest expense of approximately \$0.1 million and \$2.1 million, respectively.

#### 5. Stockholders' Equity

##### *Treasury Stock*

During the three months ended September 30, 2006, the Company repurchased 2.6 million shares of its common stock for approximately \$142.5 million at an average price of \$55.79 per share. During the nine months ended September 30, 2006, the Company repurchased 12.7 million shares of its common stock for approximately \$880.0 million at an average price of \$69.20 per share, primarily through a combination of open market purchases and an accelerated stock buyback (ASB) program, completing the Company's previously authorized stock repurchase. Of the shares repurchased in the nine months ended September 30, 2006, 3.0 million shares related to the ASB program at a cost of approximately \$232 million. On July 24, 2006, the Board of Directors authorized the repurchase up to an additional 10.0 million shares. As of September 30, 2006 the Company is authorized to repurchase approximately 7.5 million additional shares of its common stock.

## 5. Stockholders Equity (Continued)

### *Comprehensive Income*

SFAS No. 130, Reporting Comprehensive Income, requires companies to disclose comprehensive income and the components of such income. Comprehensive income is the total of net income (loss) and all other non-stockholder changes in equity. The Company has recorded the mark-to-market valuation of its interest rate swaps and its 50% interest in the mark-to-market valuation of the interest rate swaps at Green Valley Ranch as comprehensive income. Comprehensive income was computed as follows (amounts in thousands, unaudited):

	Three months ended September 30,		Nine months ended September 30,	
	2006	2005	2006	2005
Net income	\$ 19,229	\$ 38,960	\$ 87,144	\$ 120,209
Mark-to-market valuation of interest rate swaps, net of tax	(6,470 )	758	(910 )	1,142
Comprehensive income	\$ 12,759	\$ 39,718	\$ 86,234	\$ 121,351

### *Earnings Applicable to Common Stock*

In accordance with the provisions of SFAS 128, Earnings Per Share, basic EPS is computed by dividing net income applicable to common stock by the weighted-average common shares outstanding, excluding unvested restricted stock, during the period. Diluted EPS reflects the additional dilution for all potentially dilutive securities such as stock options and unvested restricted stock.

The weighted average number of common shares used in the calculation of basic and diluted earnings per share consisted of the following (amounts in thousands, unaudited):

	Three months ended September 30,		Nine months ended September 30,	
	2006	2005	2006	2005
Weighted average common shares outstanding (used in calculation of basic earnings per share)	55,003	68,355	59,286	67,901
Potential dilution from the assumed exercise of stock options and unvested restricted stock	1,709	1,417	1,813	1,401
Weighted average common and common equivalent shares outstanding (used in calculation of diluted earnings per share)	56,712	69,772	61,099	69,302

On December 4, 2006, the Company will pay a quarterly cash dividend of \$0.2875 per share to shareholders of record on November 13, 2006. During the nine months ended September 30, 2006, the Company paid a quarterly cash dividend of \$0.25 per share to shareholders of record on February 10, 2006 and May 12, 2006 and a quarterly cash dividend of \$0.2875 per share to shareholders of record on August 11, 2006 for a total of approximately \$48.9 million.

During the nine months ended September 30, 2005, the Company paid a quarterly cash dividend of \$0.21 per share to shareholders of record on February 11, 2005 and May 13, 2005 and a quarterly cash dividend of \$0.25 per share to shareholders of record on August 12, 2005 for a total of approximately \$45.5 million.

## 6. Share-Based Compensation

In May 2005, the stockholders approved and the Company adopted the 2005 Stock Compensation Plan (the 2005 Plan) which provides for grants of stock options, stock appreciation rights, restricted stock, restricted stock units and other stock awards (collectively, the Awards). Individuals eligible to

## 6. Share-Based Compensation (Continued)

receive Awards under the 2005 Plan include employees, directors and independent contractors of the Company. New shares are issued upon option exercise or restricted stock awards. Each share grant subject to an award of restricted stock, restricted stock unit or other stock award shall reduce the shares available for grant by 1.9 shares. See Note 12 of the Company's consolidated financial statements in its Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2005, for additional information related to the Company's share-based compensation plan.

Summarized information under the 2005 Plan for the nine months ended September 30, 2006, is as follows (unaudited):

	Options	Weighted average exercise price	Restricted Shares	Weighted average grant date fair value	Total
Outstanding at December 31, 2005	2,314,182	\$ 12.12	2,124,594	\$ 37.24	4,438,776
Granted			1,340,100	\$ 68.47	1,340,100
Exercised/Lapsed	(91,525 )	\$ 12.12	(225,602 )	\$ 39.05	(317,127 )
Canceled	(5,550 )	\$ 16.93	(34,600 )	\$ 55.17	(40,150 )
Outstanding at September 30, 2006	2,217,107	\$ 12.11	3,204,492	\$ 49.98	5,421,599
Exercisable at September 30, 2006	1,718,407	\$ 12.54			
Available for grant at September 30, 2006					1,173,082

Effective January 1, 2006, the Company adopted SFAS 123R utilizing the modified prospective application. Under the modified prospective application, SFAS 123R applies to new awards and to awards that were outstanding on December 31, 2005 that are subsequently modified, repurchased or cancelled. Under the modified prospective application, compensation cost recognized for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006 includes compensation cost of all share-based payments granted prior to, but not yet vested as of January 1, 2006, based on the grant-date fair value estimate in accordance with the original provisions of SFAS 123 and compensation cost for all share-based payments granted subsequent to January 1, 2006, based on the grant-date fair value estimate in accordance with the provisions of SFAS 123R. Accordingly, prior period amounts are not restated to reflect the impact of adopting SFAS 123R under the modified prospective application.

The recognition of compensation expense related to the issuance of restricted stock has not changed with the adoption of SFAS 123R, with the exception of the inclusion of the estimate of forfeitures, and such compensation expense continues to be expensed in the statements of operations. The following table reflects the impact in net income of adopting SFAS 123R reflecting compensation expense related to stock option awards that were previously not recognized in the financial statements due to the Company's prior application of APB Opinion 25 (amounts in thousands, except per share data, unaudited):

	Three months ended September 30, 2006	Nine months ended September 30, 2006
Reduction in income before income taxes	\$ 568	\$ 1,640
Reduction in net income	\$ 369	\$ 1,066
Reduction in basic earnings per common share	\$ 0.01	\$ 0.02
Reduction in diluted earnings per common share	\$ 0.01	\$ 0.02

The Company receives a tax deduction for certain stock option exercises during the period the options are exercised, generally for the excess of the market price of the option exercised over the exercise price of such options. In accordance with SFAS 123R, for the nine months ended September 30, 2006, the

## 6. Share-Based Compensation (Continued)

Company reported the tax benefit from the exercise of stock options as financing cash flows rather than operating cash flows as reported prior to the adoption of 123R. For the nine months ended September 30, 2006, the Company reported \$1.8 million of excess tax benefit.

### *Stock Options*

The fair value of each option grant is estimated on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes option pricing model and expensed using the straight-line approach. Option valuation models require the input of highly subjective assumptions and changes in the assumptions used can materially affect the fair value estimate. Expected volatility and dividends are based on implied and historical factors related to the Company's common stock. The expected term represents the weighted-average time between grant date and exercise date and the risk-free interest rate is based on U.S. Treasury rates appropriate for the expected term. No stock options were granted during 2005 or 2006 resulting in no assumptions for dividend yield, expected volatility, risk-free interest rate or expected term of option.

The Company uses historical data and projections to estimate expected employee behaviors related to option exercises and forfeitures. SFAS 123R requires that forfeitures be included as part of the grant date estimate. The effect of forfeitures related to previous SFAS 123 pro forma expense was not material. At September 30, 2006, there was \$0.9 million of unrecognized compensation expense related to share-based payments which is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average period of 0.7 years. Based on stock options outstanding at September 30, 2006, the Company estimates \$0.6 million of additional expense in 2006, \$0.3 million in 2007 and virtually zero thereafter. The remaining weighted average contractual term for options outstanding at September 30, 2006 is 4.9 years and 4.7 years for options exercisable at September 30, 2006.

The intrinsic value of a stock option is the amount by which the market value of the underlying stock exceeds the exercise price of the stock option. At September 30, 2006, the aggregate intrinsic value of stock options outstanding was \$101.4 million and the aggregate intrinsic value of stock options exercisable was \$77.8 million. Total intrinsic value of stock options exercised was \$30,000 and \$5.4 million, for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006, respectively.

Net cash proceeds from the exercise of stock options were \$1.1 million and \$14.2 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, respectively. The actual income tax benefit realized from stock option exercises was \$1.8 million and \$24.1 million for the same periods, respectively.

### *Restricted Stock*

The unearned share-based compensation related to restricted stock is amortized to compensation expense over the period the restrictions lapse (generally five to ten years). The share-based expense for these awards was determined based on the market price of our stock at the date of grant applied to the total number of shares that were anticipated to fully vest and then amortized over the vesting period. Upon adoption of SFAS 123R, the Company recognizes compensation expense based on its expectation of which restricted stock awards will vest over the requisite service period for such awards. Prior to implementing SFAS 123R, the Company recognized deferred compensation as a contra-equity account representing the amount of unrecognized restricted stock expense that was reduced as the expense was recognized. Under the provisions of SFAS 123R, the previously recorded deferred compensation was netted against additional paid-in capital.

As of September 30, 2006, the Company has unearned share-based compensation of \$147.2 million associated with these awards. The total fair value of restricted shares that vested for the three months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005 was \$8.3 million and \$8.6 million, respectively. The total fair value of



## 6. Share-Based Compensation (Continued)

restricted shares that vested for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005 was \$15.2 million and \$14.2 million, respectively.

Upon adoption of SFAS 123R, the Company began recognizing compensation expense related to stock option awards that were previously disclosed as pro forma information regarding net income and earnings per share. Compensation expense related to restricted stock awards continues to be expensed as under APB Opinion 25, with the addition of estimated forfeitures.

The following table represents where reported share-based compensation expense was classified in the accompanying condensed consolidated statements of operations (amounts in thousands, unaudited):

	Three months ended September 30,		Nine months ended September 30,	
	2006	2005	2006	2005
Casino expense	\$ 106	\$ 55	\$ 261	\$ 170
Food & beverage expense	(9 )	17	39	39
Room expense			12	1
Selling, general & administrative	700	488	1,798	1,211
Corporate	4,723	2,103	13,434	6,407
Development	638	358	1,764	1,132
Preopening	33	141	174	242
Total share-based compensation	6,191	3,162	17,482	9,202
Tax benefit	(2,167 )	(1,107 )	(6,119 )	(3,221 )
Total share-based compensation, net of tax	\$ 4,024	\$ 2,055	\$ 11,363	\$ 5,981

The following table compares actual net income reflecting SFAS 123R share-based compensation expense of \$4.0 million and \$11.4 million, respectively, as reported for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006 to the prior year's pro forma SFAS 123 fair value compensation expense of \$0.7 million and \$2.0 million, respectively and reported APB Opinion 25 intrinsic value compensation expense of \$2.1 million and \$6.0 million, respectively, related to restricted stock amortization (amounts in thousands, except per share data, unaudited):

	Three months ended September 30,		Nine months ended September 30,	
	2006 (actual)	2005 (proforma)	2006 (actual)	2005 (proforma)
Net income as reported	\$ 19,229	\$ 38,960	\$ 87,144	\$ 120,209
Additional pro forma share-based compensation, net of tax		(662 )		(1,986 )
Pro forma net income	\$ 19,229	\$ 38,298	\$ 87,144	\$ 118,223
Earnings per common share:				
Basic as reported	\$ 0.35	\$ 0.57	\$ 1.47	\$ 1.77
Basic pro forma (prior year pro forma)	\$ 0.35	\$ 0.56	\$ 1.47	\$ 1.74
Diluted as reported	\$ 0.34	\$ 0.56	\$ 1.43	\$ 1.73
Diluted pro forma (prior year pro forma)	\$ 0.34	\$ 0.55	\$ 1.43	\$ 1.71

## 7. Future Development

### *Las Vegas Development*

#### *Red Rock*

On April 18, 2006, the Company opened phase I of Red Rock Casino Resort Spa ( Red Rock ) located on Charleston Boulevard at the Interstate 215/Charleston interchange in the Summerlin master-planned community in Las Vegas, Nevada. Phase I includes a hotel tower, casino, meeting and convention space, a spa, nine restaurants, a multi-screen movie theater complex, a night club and private pool club operated by Midnight Oil Company and both indoor and outdoor entertainment venues. Phase II, which includes an additional hotel tower, additional meeting and convention space and an expanded spa, is currently under construction and is expected to be completed in early 2007. The total cost of phases I and II of Red Rock is expected to be approximately \$1.0 billion, of which approximately \$987.0 million had been incurred as of September 30, 2006.

In August 2006, the Company began a \$60 million to \$65 million phase III master-planned expansion of Red Rock, which will include a 72-lane bowling center and expansions of both parking garages. Construction of the bowling center is expected to be completed in the second quarter of 2007, while the parking garage expansions are expected to be completed in phases beginning in the third quarter of 2007 through the first quarter of 2008. Approximately \$6.2 million had been incurred as of September 30, 2006.

On July 27, 2005, the Company entered into a joint venture with Cloobek Molasky Partners I, LLC ( Cloobek Molasky ) to develop a high-end residential project on approximately 5 acres located adjacent to the hotel at Red Rock. Pursuant to the terms of the operating agreement, the Company owned 80% of the joint venture and Cloobek Molasky owned 20%. In June 2006, the Company notified Cloobek Molasky that the joint venture had been dissolved based on the terms of the operating agreement. As of September 30, 2006, the Company has cancelled the residential project resulting in a write-off of approximately \$1.4 million, which is included in loss on asset disposals, net on the Company's condensed consolidated statement of operations.

#### *Santa Fe Station Expansion*

In October 2005, the Company began a \$130 million phase III master-planned expansion at Santa Fe Station which includes an additional parking garage, a buffet, additional slot machines, a remodeled and expanded race and sports book, a meeting and banquet facility and a new center bar. The entire project is expected to include approximately 125,000 square-feet of additional space. Construction of this project is expected to be completed in phases beginning in the fourth quarter of 2006 through the summer of 2007. Approximately \$95.6 million had been incurred on the expansion as of September 30, 2006.

#### *Fiesta Henderson Expansion*

In October 2005, the Company began a \$75 million phase II master-planned expansion at Fiesta Henderson which includes a parking garage, additional slot machines, a remodeled and expanded race and sports book and a multi-screen movie theater complex. Construction of the project was completed in August 2006, with the exception of the movie theater complex which is expected to be completed in the summer of 2007. Approximately \$60.5 million had been incurred on the expansion as of September 30, 2006.

#### *Green Valley Ranch Expansion*

In October 2006, the Company opened an additional parking garage, a new race and sports book, a new poker room and two new restaurants as part of the \$115 million phase III master-planned expansion at Green Valley Ranch. The entertainment lounge is still under construction and is expected to open in the

## 7. Future Development (Continued)

summer of 2007. Approximately \$84.8 million had been incurred on the expansion as of September 30, 2006.

### *Aliante Station*

In December 2005, the Company entered into an agreement with the Greenspun Corporation to develop Aliante Station, a hotel and casino in the Aliante master-planned community located in North Las Vegas, Nevada. The Company will develop and manage the facility, to be located on a gaming-entitled 40-acre site on the northeast corner of Interstate 215 and Aliante Parkway, which was contributed by the Greenspun Corporation for their 50% ownership in the joint venture. The Company will receive a management fee equal to 2% of the property's revenues and approximately 5% of EBITDA. The first phase of Aliante Station is expected to include a hotel, casino, multiple full-service restaurants and a multi-screen movie theater complex. We expect to begin construction on Aliante Station in early 2007 with a cost of approximately \$600 million. Pursuant to the terms of the agreement, in January 2006, the Company contributed a 54 acre site located on Losee Road in North Las Vegas, Nevada, as well as approximately \$2.2 million, for the Company's 50% ownership in the joint venture. During the three months ended September 30, 2006, the Company contributed an additional \$2.0 million to fund design and development costs.

### *Native American Development*

#### *The Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria*

The Company has entered into Development and Management Agreements with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria (the FIGR), a federally recognized Native American tribe. Pursuant to those agreements, the Company will assist the FIGR in developing and operating a gaming and entertainment project to be located in Sonoma County, California. The FIGR selected the Company to assist them in designing, developing and financing of the project and, upon opening, the Company will manage the facility on behalf of the FIGR. The Management Agreement has a term of seven years from the opening of the facility and the Company will receive a management fee equal to 24% of the facility's net income. The Company will also receive a development fee equal to 2% of the cost of the project upon the opening of the facility.

In August 2003, the Company entered into an option to purchase 360 acres of land just west of the Rohnert Park city limits in Sonoma County, California. In August 2005, the Company purchased 180 acres of the optioned property and an additional 90 acres. The property purchased is approximately one-quarter mile from Highway 101 and approximately 43 miles from downtown San Francisco. In October 2003, the FIGR entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Rohnert Park. Development of the gaming and entertainment project is subject to certain governmental and regulatory approvals, including, but not limited to, negotiating a gaming compact with the State of California, the United States Department of the Interior (DOI) accepting the land into trust on behalf of the FIGR and approval of the Management Agreement by the NIGC. Prior to obtaining third-party financing, the Company will contribute significant financial support to the project. As of September 30, 2006, the Company has advanced approximately \$131.1 million toward the development of this project, primarily to complete the environmental impact study and secure real estate for the FIGR project, which is included on the Company's condensed consolidated balance sheets. Funds advanced by the Company are expected to be repaid from the proceeds of the project financing or from the FIGR's gaming revenues. In addition, the Company has agreed to pay approximately \$11.3 million upon achieving certain milestones, which will not be reimbursed. As of September 30, 2006, approximately \$2.0 million of these payments had been made and expensed in development expense as incurred. The timing of this type of project is difficult to predict.

## 7. Future Development (Continued)

and is dependent upon the receipt of the necessary governmental and regulatory approvals. There can be no assurances when or if these approvals will be obtained.

### *Gun Lake Tribe*

On November 13, 2003, the Company agreed to purchase a 50% interest in MPM Enterprises, LLC, a Michigan limited liability company (MPM). Concurrently with the Company's agreement to purchase that interest, MPM and the Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatomie Indians, a federally recognized Native American tribe commonly referred to as the Gun Lake Tribe (Gun Lake), entered into amended Development and Management Agreements, pursuant to which MPM will assist Gun Lake in developing and operating a gaming and entertainment project to be located in Allegan County, Michigan. The Company has agreed to pay \$6.0 million for its 50% interest in MPM, which is payable upon achieving certain milestones and is not reimbursable. As of September 30, 2006, approximately \$2.0 million of these payments had been made and expensed in development expense as incurred. An additional \$12.0 million in total may be paid by the Company in years six and seven of the amended Management Agreement, subject to certain contingencies. Under the terms of the amended Development Agreement, the Company has agreed to arrange financing for the ongoing development costs and construction of the project. As of September 30, 2006, the Company has advanced approximately \$33.1 million toward the development of this project, primarily to complete the environmental assessment and secure real estate for the project, which is included on the Company's condensed consolidated balance sheets. Funds advanced by the Company are expected to be repaid from the proceeds of the project financing or from Gun Lake's gaming revenues. The amended Management Agreement has a term of seven years from the opening of the facility and provides for a management fee of 30% of the project's net income to be paid to MPM. Pursuant to the terms of the MPM Operating Agreement, the Company's portion of the management fee is 50% of the first \$24 million of management fees earned, 83% of the next \$24 million of management fees and 93% of any management fees in excess of \$48 million.

The proposed project will be located on approximately 146 acres on Highway 131 near 129th Avenue, approximately 25 miles north of Kalamazoo, Michigan. As currently contemplated, the project will include slot machines, table games, a buffet and specialty restaurants. Construction of the project includes the conversion of an existing 192,000 square-foot building into the casino and entertainment facility. Development of the gaming and entertainment project and operation of Class III gaming is subject to certain governmental and regulatory approvals, including, but not limited to, the signing of a gaming compact by the Governor of the State of Michigan, the DOI taking the land into trust on behalf of Gun Lake and approval of the Management Agreement by the NIGC. On February 27, 2004, the DOI issued a Finding Of No Significant Impact with respect to the proposed project. On May 13, 2005, the DOI published in the Federal Register a Notice of Final Agency Determination (the Determination) to take certain land into trust for the benefit of Gun Lake. The publication commenced a thirty-day period in which interested parties could seek judicial review of the Determination. On June 13, 2005, Michigan Gambling Opposition filed a complaint (the Complaint) in the United States District Court, District of Columbia, seeking declaratory and injunctive relief against the DOI and officials of the DOI. The Complaint seeks judicial review of the Determination. On July 27, 2005, Gun Lake filed a motion to intervene in that lawsuit. On September 1, 2005, the District Court granted Gun Lake's motion to intervene. On January 6, 2006, Gun Lake filed a motion for judgment on the pleadings or, in the alternative, for summary judgment. Also on January 6, 2006, the DOI filed a motion to dismiss or, in the alternative, for summary judgment. By May 2006, all responsive pleadings had been filed and the case was ready for consideration by the District Court. On October 27, 2006, the Department of Justice filed a Notice with the District Court indicating that the DOI plans to take the 146-acre site into trust on January 5, 2007, if the plaintiffs do not seek injunctive relief or fail to persuade the court to issue any relief.

## 7. Future Development (Continued)

precluding the DOI from doing so. As with all litigation, no assurances can be provided as to the outcome of that lawsuit. Prior to obtaining third-party financing, the Company will contribute significant financial support to the project. The timing of this type of project is difficult to predict and is dependent upon the receipt of the necessary governmental and regulatory approvals. There can be no assurances when or if these approvals will be obtained.

### *Mechoopda Indian Tribe*

The Company has entered into Development and Management Agreements with the Mechoopda Indian Tribe of Chico Rancheria, California (the MITCR), a federally recognized Native American tribe. Pursuant to those agreements, the Company will assist the MITCR in developing and operating a gaming and entertainment facility to be located on approximately 650 acres in Butte County, California, at the intersection of State Route 149 and Highway 99, approximately 10 miles southeast of Chico, California and 80 miles north of Sacramento, California. Under the terms of the Development Agreement, the Company has agreed to arrange the financing for the ongoing development costs and construction of the facility. Funds advanced by the Company are expected to be repaid from the proceeds of the facility financing or from the MITCR's gaming revenues. As of September 30, 2006, the Company has advanced approximately \$8.2 million toward the development of this project, primarily to complete the environmental assessment and secure real estate for the project, which is included on the Company's condensed consolidated balance sheets. In addition, the Company has agreed to pay approximately \$2.2 million of payments upon achieving certain milestones, which will not be reimbursed. As of September 30, 2006, \$50,000 of these payments had been made and expensed in development expense as incurred. The Management Agreement has a term of seven years from the opening of the facility and provides for a management fee of 24% of the facility's net income. As currently contemplated, the facility will include slot machines, table games and dining and entertainment amenities. Development of the facility is subject to certain governmental and regulatory approvals, including, but not limited to, negotiating a gaming compact with the State of California, the DOI accepting land into trust on behalf of the MITCR and approval of the Management Agreement by the NIGC. Prior to obtaining third-party financing, the Company will contribute significant financial support to the project. The timing of this type of project is difficult to predict and is dependent upon the receipt of the necessary governmental and regulatory approvals. There can be no assurances when or if these approvals will be obtained.

### *North Fork Rancheria of Mono Indian Tribe*

The Company has entered into Development and Management Agreements with the North Fork Rancheria of Mono Indians (the Mono), a federally recognized Native American tribe located near Fresno, California. Pursuant to those agreements, the Company will assist the Mono in developing and operating a gaming and entertainment facility to be located in Madera County, California. The Company has secured for the benefit of the Mono two parcels of land located on Highway 99 north of the city of Madera. Under the terms of the Development Agreement, the Company has agreed to arrange the financing for the ongoing development costs and construction of the facility. Funds advanced by the Company are expected to be repaid from the proceeds of the project financing or from the Mono's gaming revenues. As of September 30, 2006, the Company has advanced approximately \$5.9 million toward the development of this project, primarily to complete the environmental impact study and secure real estate for the project, which is included on the Company's condensed consolidated balance sheets. In addition, the Company has agreed to pay approximately \$1.3 million of payments upon achieving certain milestones, which will not be reimbursed and will be expensed as incurred. As of September 30, 2006, none of these payments had been made. The Management Agreement has a term of seven years from the opening of the facility and provides for a management fee of 24% of the facility's net income. As currently contemplated,

## 7. Future Development (Continued)

the facility will include slot machines, table games, dining, hotel and entertainment amenities. Development of the gaming and entertainment project is subject to certain governmental and regulatory approvals, including, but not limited to, negotiating a gaming compact with the State of California, the DOI accepting the land into trust on behalf of the Mono and approval of the Management Agreement by the NIGC. Prior to obtaining third-party financing, the Company will contribute significant financial support to the project. The timing of this type of project is difficult to predict, and is dependant upon the receipt of the necessary governmental and regulatory approvals. There can be no assurances when or if these approvals will be obtained.

### *Land Held for Development*

As of September 30, 2006, the Company had \$265.4 million of land held for development that consists primarily of six sites that are owned or leased, which comprise 238 acres in the Las Vegas valley, 188 acres in the Sacramento area near Thunder Valley and 104 acres in Reno, Nevada. The primary gaming entitled land that the Company owns in the Las Vegas valley consists of 68 acres located at the intersection of Durango Road and the Southern Beltway/Interstate 215 in the southwest area of Las Vegas, 49 acres also located in southwest Las Vegas at the intersection of Flamingo Road and Interstate 215, 61 acres located on the southern end of Las Vegas Boulevard at Cactus Avenue of which the Company leases and has an option to purchase 2.5 acres and 26 acres on Boulder Highway at the site formerly known as Castaways Hotel Casino and Bowling Center.

The Company has also acquired or is under contract to acquire approximately 68 acres of land on which Wild Wild West is located and the surrounding area, of which approximately 49 acres have been acquired as of September 30, 2006. During the nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, the Company incurred and expensed approximately \$0.5 million and \$11.7 million, respectively, to terminate various leases related to this land. In 2003, the Company exercised its option to purchase the 19-acre parcel of leased land on which Wild Wild West is located which was to occur in July 2005 at a purchase price of approximately \$36 million. In July 2005, the Company entered into an agreement to extend the date for the close of escrow to no later than January 2007 at a purchase price of \$36 million, provided either party may accelerate the close of escrow to an earlier date upon 90 days prior written notice to the other party. In addition, the agreement reduced the lease expense from \$2.9 million to \$1.6 million per year. No amounts related to this purchase option have been recorded on the Company's condensed consolidated balance sheets.

The Company's decision whether to proceed with any new gaming or development opportunity is dependent upon future economic and regulatory factors, the availability of financing and competitive and strategic considerations. As many of these considerations are beyond the Company's control, no assurances can be made that it will be able to secure additional, acceptable financing in order to proceed with any particular project.

**Item 2.****MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF  
FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS****(unaudited)****Overview**

The following table highlights the results of our operations as compared to the prior periods (dollars in thousands, unaudited):

	Three months ended		Percent change	Nine months ended		Percent change
	September 30, 2006	2005		September 30, 2006	2005	
Net revenues total	\$ 345,968	\$ 276,337	25.2 %	\$ 980,229	\$ 823,765	19.0 %
Major Las Vegas Operations(a)	308,617	241,047	28.0 %	868,593	719,145	20.8 %
Management fees(b)	24,299	24,028	1.1 %	74,183	70,930	4.6 %
Other operations and corporate(c)	13,052	11,262	15.9 %	37,453	33,690	11.2 %
Operating income (loss) total	\$ 76,983	\$ 75,424	2.1 %	\$ 232,673	\$ 226,837	2.6 %
Major Las Vegas Operations(a)	67,657	73,391	(7.8 )%	210,483	225,671	(6.7 )%
Management fees(b)	24,299	24,028	1.1 %	74,183	70,930	4.6 %
Other operations and corporate(c)	(14,973 )	(21,995 )	31.9 %	(51,993 )	(69,764 )	25.5 %
Cash flows provided by (used in):						
Operating activities	\$ 57,429	\$ 92,392	(37.8 )%	\$ 191,078	\$ 258,614	(26.1 )%
Investing activities	(254,333 )	(332,389 )	23.5 %	(702,805 )	(620,399 )	(13.3 )%
Financing activities	201,462	244,444	(17.6 )%	521,207	358,955	45.2 %

(a) Includes the wholly owned properties of Red Rock (since April 18, 2006), Palace Station, Boulder Station, Texas Station, Sunset Station, Santa Fe Station, Fiesta Rancho and Fiesta Henderson.

(b) Includes management fees from Thunder Valley, Green Valley Ranch, Barley's and The Greens (since December 17, 2005).

(c) Includes the wholly owned properties of Wild Wild West, Wildfire, Magic Star, Gold Rush and corporate and development expense.

**Results of Operations**

Consolidated net revenues for the three months ended September 30, 2006 increased 25.2% to \$346.0 million as compared to \$276.3 million for the three months ended September 30, 2005. Consolidated net revenues for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 increased 19.0% to \$980.2 million as compared to \$823.8 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2005. The increase in net revenues was due primarily to revenue increases at our Major Las Vegas Operations.

Combined net revenues from our Major Las Vegas Operations increased 28.0% to \$308.6 million for the three months ended September 30, 2006 as compared to \$241.0 million for the three months ended September 30, 2005, as a result of opening Red Rock Casino Resort Spa ( Red Rock ) on April 18, 2006. Major Las Vegas Operations, excluding Red Rock, decreased 2.8% for the same three month period, as a result of a lower spend per visit when compared to prior year and construction disruption at Santa Fe Station due to the phase III master-planned expansion. Combined net revenues from our Major Las Vegas Operations increased 20.8% to \$868.6 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 as compared to \$719.1 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2005. The increase in combined net revenues was primarily due to the opening of Red Rock, as noted above, in addition to the continued population

and employment growth in the Las Vegas valley as well as the continued success of our Jumbo brand of products, including Jumbo Jackpot.

Consolidated operating income increased 2.1% and 2.6% for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006, respectively, as compared to the three and nine months ended September 30, 2005. Our consolidated operating margin decreased 5.0 and 3.8 percentage points for the same three and nine month period. The decrease in operating margin was the result of lower operating margins at Red Rock. Prior experience has demonstrated that new facilities initially do not operate as efficiently as more mature facilities. Additionally, since opening, our focus at Red Rock has been on customer service and, as a result, the operating margins have been lower than we expect them to be in the future.

### Share-Based Compensation

Effective January 1, 2006, we adopted Statement of Financial Accounting Standards ( SFAS ) 123R, Share-Based Payment , utilizing the modified prospective application. Under the modified prospective application, SFAS 123R applies to new awards and awards that were outstanding on December 31, 2005 that are subsequently modified, repurchased or cancelled. Under the modified prospective application, compensation cost recognized in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006 includes compensation cost of all share-based payments granted prior to, but not yet vested as of January 1, 2006, based on the grant-date fair value estimated in accordance with the original provisions of SFAS 123 and compensation cost for all share-based payments granted subsequent to January 1, 2006, based on the grant-date fair value estimated in accordance with the provisions of SFAS 123R. Accordingly, prior period amounts are not restated to reflect the impact of adopting SFAS 123R under the modified prospective application.

The recognition of compensation expense related to the issuance of restricted stock has not changed with the adoption of SFAS 123R, except with the addition of the estimate of forfeitures, and such compensation expense continues to be expensed in the statements of operations. The following table reflects the impact in net income of adopting SFAS 123R reflecting compensation expense related to stock option awards that were previously not recognized in the financial statements due to our prior application of APB Opinion 25 (amounts in thousands, except per share data, unaudited):

	Three months ended September 30, 2006	Nine months ended September 30, 2006
Reduction in income before income taxes	\$ 568	\$ 1,640
Reduction in net income	\$ 369	\$ 1,066
Reduction in basic earnings per common share	\$ 0.01	\$ 0.02
Reduction in diluted earnings per common share	\$ 0.01	\$ 0.02



Edgar Filing: STATION CASINOS INC - Form 10-Q

The following table highlights the various sources of our revenues and expenses as compared to the prior periods (dollars in thousands, unaudited):

	Three months ended		Percent Change	Nine months ended		Percent Change
	September 30, 2006	2005		September 30, 2006	2005	
Casino revenues	\$ 248,836	\$ 206,412	20.6 %	\$ 710,196	\$ 613,321	15.8 %
Casino expenses	93,776	71,737	30.7 %	254,905	213,163	19.6 %
<i>Margin</i>	62.3 %	65.2 %		64.1 %	65.2 %	
Food and beverage revenues	\$ 57,637	\$ 35,789	61.0 %	\$ 152,784	\$ 109,341	39.7 %
Food and beverage expenses	41,710	25,310	64.8 %	109,709	76,534	43.3 %
<i>Margin</i>	27.6 %	29.3 %		28.2 %	30.0 %	
Room revenues	\$ 20,867	\$ 14,009	49.0 %	\$ 59,507	\$ 46,071	29.2 %
Room expenses	8,584	5,159	66.4 %	21,967	15,726	39.7 %
<i>Margin</i>	58.9 %	63.2 %		63.1 %	65.9 %	
Other revenues	\$ 19,894	\$ 14,159	40.5 %	\$ 51,728	\$ 38,209	35.4 %
Other expenses	7,801	4,904	59.1 %	19,204	13,222	45.2 %
Selling, general and administrative expenses	\$ 64,872	\$ 46,076	40.8 %	\$ 167,652	\$ 134,449	24.7 %
<i>Percent of net revenues</i>	18.8 %	16.7 %		17.1 %	16.3 %	
Corporate expense	\$ 12,032	\$ 14,592	(17.5 )%	\$ 44,791	\$ 42,856	4.5 %
<i>Percent of net revenues</i>	3.5 %	5.3 %		4.6 %	5.2 %	
Earnings from joint ventures	\$ 9,044	\$ 8,956	1.0 %	\$ 30,884	\$ 28,356	8.9 %

*Casino.* Casino revenues increased 20.6% and 15.8% for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006, respectively, as compared to the three and nine months ended September 30, 2005, primarily due to the same factors affecting the combined net revenues for our Major Las Vegas Operations noted above. Casino expenses increased 30.7% and 19.6% for the same three and nine month period. The increase in casino expenses is due to the opening of Red Rock, which includes approximately 3,200 slot machines and over 60 table games. Operating margin was impacted by the opening of Red Rock as noted above.

*Food and Beverage.* Food and beverage revenues increased 61.0% and 39.7% for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006, respectively as compared to the three and nine months ended September 30, 2005. Food covers increased 31.0% and 18.2% for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006, respectively, and the average guest check increased 9.7% and 13.8% for the same three and nine month period. Food and beverage expenses increased 64.8% and 43.3% for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006, respectively as compared to the three and nine months ended September 30, 2005, primarily due to the opening of Red Rock in April 2006 which includes the addition of nine restaurants.

*Room.* Room revenues increased 49.0% and 29.2% for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006, respectively, as compared to the three and nine months ended September 30, 2005, while room expenses increased 66.4% and 39.7% for the same three and nine month period. The increase in room revenue and expenses is related to the opening of Red Rock which includes 415 hotel rooms. Room occupancy decreased to 94% and 96% for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006, respectively, as compared to 96% and 97% for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2005, respectively. The average daily room rate increased to \$71 for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006, respectively, from \$57 and \$61 for the three and nine months ended September 30,

2005, respectively. The increase in room rate is primarily due to consumer demand for rooms in Las Vegas as well as an average daily room rate of \$164 and \$169 for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006, respectively, at Red Rock.

*Other.* Other revenues primarily include income from gift shops, bowling, entertainment, leased outlets and arcades. Other revenues increased by 40.5% to approximately \$19.9 million for the three months ended September 30, 2006 as compared to approximately \$14.2 million for the three months ended September 30, 2005. Other revenues increased by 35.4% to approximately \$51.7 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 as compared to approximately \$38.2 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2005. The increase in other revenues is primarily due to the opening of Red Rock.

*Management Fees.* We manage Thunder Valley on behalf of the United Auburn Indian Community ( UAIC ) and receive a management fee equal to 24% of net income (as defined in the management agreement). In addition, we are the managing partner for Green Valley Ranch, Barley s and The Greens and receive a management fee equal to 2% of revenues and approximately 5% of Earnings Before Interest, Taxes, Depreciation and Amortization ( EBITDA ) from Green Valley Ranch and 10% of EBITDA from Barley s and The Greens. For the three months ended September 30, 2006, management fees remained virtually unchanged as compared to the three months ended September 30, 2005. For the nine months ended September 30, 2006, management fees increased 4.6% to approximately \$74.2 million as compared to \$70.9 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2005. The increase is due to improved results at both Thunder Valley and Green Valley Ranch offset by construction disruption experienced at Green Valley Ranch as a result of the phase III expansion.

*Selling, General and Administrative ( SG&A ).* SG&A expenses increased 40.8% and 24.7% for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006, respectively, as compared to the prior periods primarily due to the opening of Red Rock during the second quarter. SG&A as a percentage of net revenues increased to 18.8% and 17.1% for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006, respectively, as compared to 16.7% and 16.3% for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2005.

*Corporate Expense.* Corporate expense as a percentage of net revenues decreased to 3.5% and 4.6% for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006, respectively, as compared to 5.3% and 5.2% for three and nine months ended September 30, 2005. Corporate expense decreased 17.5% to \$12.0 million for the three months ended September 30, 2006 as compared to \$14.6 million for the three months ended September 30, 2005. The decrease is primarily due to a reduction in corporate level bonus for the year. Corporate expense increased 4.5% to \$44.8 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 as compared to \$42.9 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2005. The increase is due primarily to increased investment in corporate infrastructure to handle projected growth and incentive compensation which includes cash and restricted stock.

*Development Expense.* Development expense includes costs to identify potential gaming opportunities, the internal costs incurred to bring the Native American projects currently under contract to fruition and other development opportunities, which includes payroll, travel and legal expenses. Development expenses for the three months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005 were approximately \$2.1 million and \$2.0 million, respectively. Development expenses for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005 were approximately \$6.8 million and \$6.7 million, respectively.

*Depreciation and Amortization.* Depreciation and amortization increased 41.5% in the three months ended September 30, 2006 to \$36.9 million as compared to \$26.1 million in the three months ended September 30, 2005. Depreciation and amortization increased 24.3% in the nine months ended September 30, 2006 to \$93.9 million as compared to \$75.5 million in the nine months ended September 30, 2005. This increase was primarily due to the completion of phase I of Red Rock in April 2006 as well as the completion of the bowling center at Sunset Station in April 2005 and the remodel of the buffet at Sunset Station in December 2005.



*Preopening Expenses.* Preopening expenses for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005 were approximately \$27.5 million and \$3.5 million, respectively, which include costs incurred related to projects under development including Red Rock (see Future Development ).

*Lease Terminations.* During the nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, we recorded approximately \$0.5 million and \$11.7 million to terminate various leases on land adjacent to the current Wild Wild West property.

*Earnings from Joint Ventures.* We own a 50% interest in various joint ventures including Green Valley Ranch and Barley s, and a 6.7% interest in a joint venture that owns the Palms Casino Resort. For the three months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, we recorded approximately \$9.0 million as our share of the earnings from these joint ventures. For the nine months ended September 30, 2006, we recorded approximately \$30.9 million as our share of the earnings from these joint ventures as compared to approximately \$28.4 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2005. The increase in earnings from joint ventures is primarily a result of the improved results at Green Valley Ranch offset by construction disruption experienced as a result of the phase III master-planned expansion.

*Interest Expense.* Interest expense, net of capitalized interest, increased 154.8% to \$52.1 million in the three months ended September 30, 2006 as compared to \$20.5 million in the three months ended September 30, 2005. Gross interest expense increased approximately \$31.0 million over the same periods due to an increase in long-term debt of approximately \$1.7 billion from September 2005 to September 2006, as well as an increase in our weighted average cost of debt from 6.4% to 6.9%. Capitalized interest decreased \$716,000 for the three months ended September 30, 2006.

Interest expense, net of capitalized interest, increased 101.2% to \$117.3 million in the nine months ended September 30, 2006 as compared to \$58.3 million in the nine months ended September 30, 2005. Gross interest expense increased approximately \$69.1 million over the same periods due to an increase in long-term debt as noted above. Our weighted average cost of debt increased to 6.6% for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 from 6.2% for the nine months ended September 30, 2005. Capitalized interest increased approximately \$10.1 million to \$23.6 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 primarily due to interest capitalized for the construction of phase I and II of Red Rock.

*Interest and Other Expense from Joint Ventures.* For the three months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, we recorded approximately \$1.8 million and \$1.5 million, respectively, in interest and other expense related to our unconsolidated joint ventures. The increase is due to increased interest rates experienced at both Green Valley Ranch and the Palms Casino Resort.

For the nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, we recorded approximately \$4.9 million and \$5.3 million, respectively in interest and other expense related to our unconsolidated joint ventures. The decrease in interest and other expenses from joint ventures is primarily related to interest capitalized during the construction period of the Green Valley Ranch phase III master-planned expansion and the development of Aliante Station.

*Loss on Early Retirement of Debt.* On February 15, 2005 and July 1, 2005, we redeemed the remaining \$16.9 million of outstanding 8¾% senior notes due 2008 and \$17.4 million of outstanding 9¾% senior subordinated notes due 2010, respectively. As a result of these redemptions we recorded a loss on early retirement of debt of approximately \$0.6 million and \$1.3 million during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2005, respectively, to reflect the write-off of unamortized loan costs, discounts and call premium.

#### **Liquidity and Capital Resources**

The following liquidity and capital resources discussion contains certain forward-looking statements with respect to our business, financial condition, results of operations, dispositions, acquisitions, expansion



projects and our subsidiaries, which involve risks and uncertainties that cannot be predicted or quantified, and consequently, actual results may differ materially from those expressed or implied herein. Such risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to, financial market risks, the ability to maintain existing management, integration of acquisitions, competition within the gaming industry, the cyclical nature of the hotel business and gaming business, economic conditions, regulatory matters and litigation and other risks described in our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. In addition, construction projects such as Red Rock and the expansions at Santa Fe Station, Green Valley Ranch and Fiesta Henderson entail significant risks, including shortages of materials or skilled labor, unforeseen regulatory problems, work stoppages, weather interference, floods and unanticipated cost increases. The anticipated costs and construction periods are based on budgets, conceptual design documents and construction schedule estimates. There can be no assurance that the budgeted costs or construction period will be met. All forward-looking statements are based on our current expectations and projections about future events.

During the nine months ended September 30, 2006, we generated cash flows from operating activities of approximately \$191.1 million. In addition, we received \$698.5 million from the issuance of senior and senior subordinated notes (see Description of Certain Indebtedness and Capital Stock - *Senior and Senior Subordinated Notes* ). At September 30, 2006, we had total available borrowings of \$2.0 billion under the Revolving Facility, which was reduced by borrowings of \$1.1 billion and various letters of credit leaving approximately \$911.6 million available as of September 30, 2006. We had \$95.0 million in cash and cash equivalents as of September 30, 2006, virtually all of which is used for day-to-day operations of our casinos.

During the nine months ended September 30, 2006, total capital expenditures were \$680.1 million, of which approximately \$351.2 million was related to the development of phases I and II of Red Rock (see Future Development ), approximately \$80.5 million was for the purchase of land, approximately \$84.5 million for the phase III expansion at Santa Fe Station, approximately \$50.9 million for the phase II expansion at Fiesta Henderson and approximately \$113.0 million for maintenance capital expenditures and various other projects. In addition to capital expenditures, we repurchased approximately \$880.0 million of our common stock and paid approximately \$48.9 million in common stock dividends.

Our primary cash requirements for the remainder of 2006 are expected to include (i) approximately \$17 million for the payment of common stock dividends, (ii) approximately \$31 million related to construction of Red Rock phase II, (iii) approximately \$13 million related to the phase III expansion of Red Rock, (iv) approximately \$21 million related to the phase III expansion of Santa Fe Station, (v) approximately \$12 million related to the phase II expansion at Fiesta Henderson, (vi) payments related to our existing and other potential Native American projects, (vii) principal and interest payments on indebtedness, (viii) maintenance and other capital expenditures, (iv) other strategic land purchases and (x) opportunistic repurchases of our common stock.

Our primary cash requirements for 2007 are expected to include (i) approximately \$30 million for Red Rock phase II, (ii) approximately \$45 million for the phase III expansion at Red Rock, (iii) approximately \$30 million for the phase III expansion of Santa Fe Station, (iv) approximately \$15 million for the phase II expansion of Fiesta Henderson, (v) payments of cash dividends, (vi) principal and interest payments on indebtedness, (vii) maintenance and other capital expenditures, (viii) other strategic land purchases and (ix) opportunistic repurchases of our common stock.

We believe that cash flows from operations, borrowings under our Revolving Facility and existing cash balances will be adequate to satisfy our anticipated uses of capital during the remainder of 2006 and 2007. However, we are continually evaluating our financing needs. If more attractive financing alternatives or expansion, development or acquisition opportunities become available to us, we may amend our financing plans assuming such financing would be permitted under our existing debt agreements (see Description of Certain Indebtedness and Capital Stock ) and other applicable agreements.

*Off Balance Sheet Arrangements*

As of September 30, 2006, we have certain off-balance sheet arrangements that affect our financial condition, liquidity and results of operations, which include interest rate swaps with a combined notional amount of \$550.0 million (see Description of Certain Indebtedness and Capital Stock *Interest Rate Swaps* ). We also have certain contractual obligations including long-term debt, operating leases, employment contracts, long-term stay on agreements, slot conversion purchases and the purchase of land. Other than the issuance of the \$300 million of 65 $\frac{8}{8}$ % senior subordinated notes in March 2006 and the \$400 million of 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ % of senior notes in August 2006, there were no material changes to our contractual obligations previously reported in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2005.

**Future Development Las Vegas**

*Red Rock*

On April 18, 2006, we opened phase I of Red Rock Casino Resort Spa ( Red Rock ) located on Charleston Boulevard at the Interstate 215/Charleston interchange in the Summerlin master-planned community in Las Vegas, Nevada. Phase I includes 415 hotel rooms, approximately 3,200 slot machines, 94,000 square feet of meeting and convention space, a 35,000-square-foot spa, nine restaurants, a 16-screen movie theater complex, a night club and private pool club operated by Midnight Oil Company, both indoor and outdoor entertainment venues and parking for approximately 5,000 vehicles. Phase II, which includes an additional hotel tower containing over 400 hotel rooms, additional meeting and convention space and an expanded spa, is currently under construction and is expected to be completed in early 2007. The total cost of phases I and II of Red Rock is expected to be approximately \$1.0 billion, of which approximately \$987.0 million had been incurred as of September 30, 2006.

In August 2006, we began a \$60 million to \$65 million phase III master-planned expansion of Red Rock, which will include a 72-lane bowling center and expansions of both parking garages. Construction of the bowling center is expected to be completed in the second quarter of 2007, while the parking garage expansions are expected to be completed in phases beginning in the third quarter of 2007 through the first quarter of 2008. Approximately \$6.2 million had been incurred as of September 30, 2006.

On July 27, 2005, we entered into a joint venture with Cloobeck Molasky Partners I, LLC ( Cloobeck Molasky ) to develop a high-end residential project on approximately 5 acres located adjacent to the hotel at Red Rock. Pursuant to the terms of the operating agreement, we owned 80% of the joint venture and Cloobeck Molasky owned 20%. In June 2006, we notified Cloobeck Molasky that the joint venture had been dissolved based on the terms of the operating agreement. As of September 30, 2006, we have cancelled the residential project resulting in a write-off of approximately \$1.4 million, which is included in loss on asset disposals, net on our condensed consolidated statement of operations.

*Santa Fe Station Expansion*

In October 2005, we began a \$130 million phase III master-planned expansion at Santa Fe Station which is expected to include a 2,900-space parking garage, a 500-seat buffet, 400 additional slot machines, a remodeled and expanded race and sports book, a 15,000 square-foot meeting and banquet facility and a new center bar. The entire project is expected to include approximately 125,000 square-feet of additional space. Construction of this project is expected to be completed in phases beginning in the fourth quarter of 2006 through the summer of 2007. Approximately \$95.6 million had been incurred on the expansion as of September 30, 2006.

*Fiesta Henderson Expansion*

In October 2005, we began a \$75 million phase II master-planned expansion at Fiesta Henderson which is expected to include a 1,500-space parking garage, 350 additional slot machines, a remodeled and expanded race and sports book and a 12-screen movie theater complex. Construction of the project was completed in August 2006, with the exception of the movie theater complex which is expected to be completed in the summer of 2007. Approximately \$60.5 million had been incurred on the expansion as of September 30, 2006.

*Green Valley Ranch Expansion*

In October 2006, we opened a 1,200-space parking garage, a new race and sports book, a new poker room and two new restaurants as part of the \$115 million phase III master-planned expansion at Green Valley Ranch. The entertainment lounge is still under construction and is expected to open in the summer of 2007. Approximately \$84.8 million had been incurred on the expansion as of September 30, 2006.

*Aliante Station*

In December 2005, we entered into an agreement with the Greenspun Corporation to develop Aliante Station, a hotel and casino in the Aliante master-planned community located in North Las Vegas, Nevada. We will develop and manage the facility, to be located on a gaming-entitled 40-acre site on the northeast corner of Interstate 215 and Aliante Parkway, which was contributed by the Greenspun Corporation for their 50% ownership in the joint venture. We will receive a management fee equal to 2% of the property's revenues and approximately 5% of EBITDA. The first phase of Aliante Station is expected to include 200 hotel rooms, approximately 3,000 slot machines, multiple full-service restaurants and a multi-screen movie theater complex. We expect to begin construction on Aliante Station in early 2007 with a cost of approximately \$600 million. Pursuant to the terms of the agreement, in January 2006, we contributed a 54 acre site located on Losee Road in North Las Vegas, Nevada, as well as approximately \$2.2 million, for our 50% ownership in the joint venture. During the three months ended September 30, 2006, we contributed an additional \$2.0 million to fund design and development costs.

**Future Development Native American**

*The Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria*

We have entered into Development and Management Agreements with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria (the FIGR), a federally recognized Native American tribe. Pursuant to those agreements, we will assist the FIGR in developing and operating a gaming and entertainment project to be located in Sonoma County, California. The FIGR selected us to assist them in designing, developing and financing the project and, upon opening, we will manage the facility on behalf of the FIGR. The Management Agreement has a term of seven years from the opening of the facility and we will receive a management fee equal to 24% of the facility's net income. We will also receive a development fee equal to 2% of the cost of the project upon the opening of the facility.

In August 2003, we entered into an option to purchase 360 acres of land just west of the Rohnert Park city limits in Sonoma County, California. In August 2005, we purchased 180 acres of the optioned property and an additional 90 acres. The property purchased is approximately one-quarter mile from Highway 101 and approximately 43 miles from downtown San Francisco. In October 2003, the FIGR entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Rohnert Park. Development of the gaming and entertainment project is subject to certain governmental and regulatory approvals, including, but not limited to, negotiating a gaming compact with the State of California, the United States Department of the Interior (DOI) accepting the land into trust on behalf of the FIGR and approval of the Management Agreement by the National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC). Prior to obtaining third-party



financing, we will contribute significant financial support to the project. As of September 30, 2006, we have advanced approximately \$131.1 million toward the development of this project, primarily to complete the environmental impact study and secure real estate for the FIGR project, which is included on our condensed consolidated balance sheets. Funds advanced by us are expected to be repaid from the proceeds of the project financing or from the FIGR's gaming revenues. In addition, we have agreed to pay approximately \$11.3 million upon achieving certain milestones, which will not be reimbursed. As of September 30, 2006, approximately \$2.0 million of these payments had been made and expensed in development expense as incurred. The timing of this type of project is difficult to predict and is dependent upon the receipt of the necessary governmental and regulatory approvals. There can be no assurances when or if these approvals will be obtained.

#### *Gun Lake Tribe*

On November 13, 2003, we agreed to purchase a 50% interest in MPM Enterprises, LLC, a Michigan limited liability company (MPM). Concurrently with our agreement to purchase that interest, MPM and the Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatomis Indians, a federally recognized Native American tribe commonly referred to as the Gun Lake Tribe (Gun Lake), entered into amended Development and Management Agreements, pursuant to which MPM will assist Gun Lake in developing and operating a gaming and entertainment project to be located in Allegan County, Michigan. We have agreed to pay \$6.0 million for our 50% interest in MPM, which is payable upon achieving certain milestones and is not reimbursable. As of September 30, 2006, approximately \$2.0 million of these payments had been made and expensed in development expense as incurred. An additional \$12.0 million in total may be paid by us in years six and seven of the amended Management Agreement, subject to certain contingencies. Under the terms of the amended Development Agreement, we have agreed to arrange financing for the ongoing development costs and construction of the project. As of September 30, 2006, we have advanced approximately \$33.1 million toward the development of this project, primarily to complete the environmental assessment and secure real estate for the project, which is included on our condensed consolidated balance sheets. Funds advanced by us are expected to be repaid from the proceeds of the project financing or from Gun Lake's gaming revenues. The amended Management Agreement has a term of seven years from the opening of the facility and provides for a management fee of 30% of the project's net income to be paid to MPM. Pursuant to the terms of the MPM Operating Agreement our portion of the management fee is 50% of the first \$24 million of management fees earned, 83% of the next \$24 million of management fees and 93% of any management fees in excess of \$48 million.

The proposed project will be located on approximately 146 acres on Highway 131 near 129th Avenue, approximately 25 miles north of Kalamazoo, Michigan. As currently contemplated, the project will include up to 2,500 slot machines, 75 table games, a buffet and specialty restaurants. Construction of the project includes the conversion of an existing 192,000 square-foot building into the casino and entertainment facility. Development of the gaming and entertainment project and operation of Class III gaming is subject to certain governmental and regulatory approvals, including, but not limited to, the signing of a gaming compact by the Governor of the State of Michigan, the DOI taking the land into trust on behalf of Gun Lake and approval of the Management Agreement by the NIGC. On February 27, 2004, the DOI issued a Finding Of No Significant Impact with respect to the proposed project. On May 13, 2005, the DOI published in the Federal Register a Notice of Final Agency Determination (the Determination) to take certain land into trust for the benefit of Gun Lake. The publication commenced a thirty-day period in which interested parties could seek judicial review of the Determination. On June 13, 2005, Michigan Gambling Opposition filed a complaint (the Complaint) in the United States District Court, District of Columbia, seeking declaratory and injunctive relief against the DOI and officials of the DOI. The Complaint seeks judicial review of the Determination. On July 27, 2005, Gun Lake filed a motion to intervene in that lawsuit. On September 1, 2005, the District Court granted Gun Lake's motion to intervene. On January 6, 2006, Gun Lake filed a motion for judgment on the pleadings or, in the

alternative, for summary judgment. Also on January 6, 2006, the DOI filed a motion to dismiss or, in the alternative, for summary judgment. By May 2006, all responsive pleadings had been filed and the case was ready for consideration by the District Court. On October 27, 2006, the Department of Justice filed a Notice with the District Court indicating that the DOI plans to take the 146-acre site into trust on January 5, 2007, if the plaintiffs do not seek injunctive relief or fail to persuade the court to issue any relief precluding the DOI from doing so. As with all litigation, no assurances can be provided as to the outcome of that lawsuit. Prior to obtaining third-party financing, we will contribute significant financial support to the project. The timing of this type of project is difficult to predict and is dependent upon the receipt of the necessary governmental and regulatory approvals. There can be no assurances when or if these approvals will be obtained.

*Mechoopda Indian Tribe*

We have entered into Development and Management Agreements with the Mechoopda Indian Tribe of Chico Rancheria, California (the MITCR), a federally recognized Native American tribe. Pursuant to those agreements, we will assist the MITCR in developing and operating a gaming and entertainment facility to be located on approximately 650 acres in Butte County, California, at the intersection of State Route 149 and Highway 99, approximately 10 miles southeast of Chico, California and 80 miles north of Sacramento, California. Under the terms of the Development Agreement, we have agreed to arrange the financing for the ongoing development costs and construction of the facility. Funds advanced by us are expected to be repaid from the proceeds of the facility financing or from the MITCR's gaming revenues. As of September 30, 2006, we have advanced approximately \$8.2 million toward the development of this project, primarily to complete the environmental assessment and secure real estate for the project, which is included on our condensed consolidated balance sheets. In addition, we have agreed to pay approximately \$2.2 million of payments upon achieving certain milestones, which will not be reimbursed. As of September 30, 2006, \$50,000 of these payments had been made and expensed in development expense as incurred. The Management Agreement has a term of seven years from the opening of the facility and provides for a management fee of 24% of the facility's net income. As currently contemplated, the facility will include approximately 700 slot machines, 12 table games and dining and entertainment amenities. Development of the facility is subject to certain governmental and regulatory approvals, including, but not limited to, negotiating a gaming compact with the State of California, the DOI accepting land into trust on behalf of the MITCR and approval of the Management Agreement by the NIGC. Prior to obtaining third-party financing, we will contribute significant financial support to the project. The timing of this type of project is difficult to predict and is dependent upon the receipt of the necessary governmental and regulatory approvals. There can be no assurances when or if these approvals will be obtained.

*North Fork Rancheria of Mono Indian Tribe*

We have entered into Development and Management Agreements with the North Fork Rancheria of Mono Indians (the Mono), a federally recognized Native American tribe located near Fresno, California. Pursuant to those agreements, we will assist the Mono in developing and operating a gaming and entertainment facility to be located in Madera County, California. We have secured for the benefit of the Mono two parcels of land located on Highway 99 north of the city of Madera. Under the terms of the Development Agreement, we have agreed to arrange the financing for the ongoing development costs and construction of the facility. Funds advanced by us are expected to be repaid from the proceeds of the project financing or from the Mono's gaming revenues. As of September 30, 2006 we have advanced approximately \$5.9 million toward the development of this project, primarily to complete the environmental impact study and secure real estate for the project, which is included on our condensed consolidated balance sheets. In addition, we have agreed to pay approximately \$1.3 million of payments upon achieving certain milestones, which will not be reimbursed and will be expensed as incurred. As of September 30, 2006, none of these payments had been made. The Management Agreement has a term of

seven years from the opening of the facility and provides for a management fee of 24% of the facility's net income. As currently contemplated, the facility will include approximately 2,000 slot machines, 60 table games, dining, hotel and entertainment amenities. Development of the gaming and entertainment project is subject to certain governmental and regulatory approvals, including, but not limited to, negotiating a gaming compact with the State of California, the DOI accepting the land into trust on behalf of the Mono and approval of the Management Agreement by the NIGC. Prior to obtaining third-party financing, we will contribute significant financial support to the project. The timing of this type of project is difficult to predict, and is dependant upon the receipt of the necessary governmental and regulatory approvals. There can be no assurances when or if these approvals will be obtained.

### **Land Acquisition**

We have acquired certain parcels of land as part of our development activities. Our decision whether to proceed with any new gaming or development opportunity is dependent upon future economic and regulatory factors, the availability of financing and competitive and strategic considerations. As many of these considerations are beyond our control, no assurances can be made that we will be able to secure additional, acceptable financing in order to proceed with any particular project.

As of September 30, 2006, we had \$265.4 million of land held for development that consists primarily of six sites that are owned or leased, which comprise 238 acres in the Las Vegas valley, 188 acres in the Sacramento area near Thunder Valley and 104 acres in Reno, Nevada. The primary gaming entitled land that we own in the Las Vegas Valley consists of 68 acres located at the intersection of Durango Road and the Southern Beltway/Interstate 215 in the southwest area of Las Vegas, 49 acres also located in southwest Las Vegas at the intersection of Flamingo Road and Interstate 215, 61 acres located on the southern end of Las Vegas Boulevard at Cactus Avenue of which we lease and have an option to purchase 2.5 acres and 26 acres on Boulder Highway at the site formerly known as Castaways Hotel Casino and Bowling Center.

We have also acquired or are under contract to acquire approximately 68 acres of land on which Wild Wild West is located and the surrounding area, of which approximately 49 acres have been acquired as of September 30, 2006. During the nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, we incurred and expensed approximately \$0.5 million and \$11.7 million, respectively, to terminate various leases related to this land. In 2003, we exercised our option to purchase the 19-acre parcel of leased land on which Wild Wild West is located which was to occur in July 2005 at a purchase price of approximately \$36 million. In July 2005, we entered into an agreement to extend the date for the close of escrow to no later than January 2007 at a purchase price of \$36 million, provided either party may accelerate the close of escrow to an earlier date upon 90 days' prior written notice to the other party. In addition, the agreement reduced the lease expense from \$2.9 million to \$1.6 million per year. No amounts related to this purchase option have been recorded on our condensed consolidated balance sheets.

### **Regulation and Taxes**

We are subject to extensive regulation by the Nevada gaming authorities, the NIGC and tribal gaming agency of the UAIC, and will be subject to regulation, which may or may not be similar to that in Nevada, by any other jurisdiction in which we may conduct gaming activities in the future.

The gaming industry represents a significant source of tax revenue, particularly to the State of Nevada and its counties and municipalities. From time to time, various state and federal legislators and officials have proposed changes in tax law, or in the administration of such law, affecting the gaming industry. The Nevada Legislature concluded their 2005 session and there were no increases in taxes affecting the gaming industry. The Nevada Legislature meets again in 2007.

We believe that our recorded tax balances are adequate. However, it is not possible to determine with certainty the likelihood of possible changes in tax law or in the administration of such law, regulations or

compact provisions. Such changes, if adopted, could have a material adverse effect on our operating results. We have settled and finalized the Internal Revenue Service audits up through and including the years ended December 31, 2002.

### **Description of Certain Indebtedness and Capital Stock**

#### *Revolving Facility*

In December 2005, we increased our availability under our revolving credit facility (the *Revolving Facility*) from \$1.0 billion to \$2.0 billion and extended the maturity by one year to December 2010. The *Revolving Facility* contains no principal amortization. The Borrowers are the major operating subsidiaries and the *Revolving Facility* is secured by substantially all of our assets. Borrowings under the *Revolving Facility* bear interest at a margin above the Alternate Base Rate or the Eurodollar Rate (each as defined in the *Revolving Facility*), as selected by us. The margin above such rates, and the fee on the unfunded portions of the *Revolving Facility*, will vary quarterly based on our combined consolidated ratio of debt to Adjusted EBITDA (as defined in the *Revolving Facility*). As of September 30, 2006, the Borrowers' margin above the Eurodollar Rate on borrowings under the *Revolving Facility* was 2.00%. The maximum margin for Eurodollar Rate borrowings is 2.25%. The maximum margin for Alternate Base Rate borrowings is 1.00%. As of September 30, 2006, the fee for the unfunded portion of the *Revolving Facility* was 0.30%.

The *Revolving Facility* contains certain financial and other covenants, some of which were amended in June and September 2006. These include a maximum funded debt to Adjusted EBITDA ratio for the Borrowers combined of 4.00 to 1.00 for each quarter and a minimum fixed charge coverage ratio for the preceding four quarters for the Borrowers combined of 1.25 to 1.00 for each quarter. As of September 30, 2006, the Borrowers' funded debt to Adjusted EBITDA ratio was 2.40 to 1.00 and the fixed charge coverage ratio was 1.72 to 1.00. In addition, the *Revolving Facility* has financial and other covenants, which require that the maximum consolidated funded debt to Adjusted EBITDA ratio can be no more than 7.00 to 1.00 through June 30, 2007, which reduces to 6.75 to 1.00 on September 30, 2007 through June 30, 2008, to 6.50 to 1.00 on September 30, 2008 through December 31, 2008, to 5.75 to 1.00 on March 31, 2009 through December 31, 2009 and to 5.00 to 1.00 on March 31, 2010. Other covenants limit prepayments of indebtedness or rent (including subordinated debt other than re-financings meeting certain criteria), asset dispositions, dividends, indebtedness, stock repurchases and investments. As of September 30, 2006, the Company's consolidated funded debt to Adjusted EBITDA ratio was 5.94 to 1.00. The Company has pledged the stock of all of its major subsidiaries.

#### *Senior and Senior Subordinated Notes*

On August 15, 2006, we issued \$400 million of 7¾% senior notes due August 15, 2016. On March 13, 2006, we issued \$300.0 million of 6½% senior subordinated notes due March 2018. Proceeds from the sale of the notes were used to reduce a portion of the amount outstanding on our *Revolving Facility*.

During the nine months ended September 30, 2005, we redeemed the remaining \$16.9 million of outstanding 8¾% senior notes due 2008 and \$17.4 million of outstanding 9⅞% senior subordinated notes due 2010. As a result of these redemptions, we recorded a loss on early retirement of debt of approximately \$0.6 million and \$1.3 million in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2005 to reflect the write-off of the unamortized loan costs, discounts and call premium.

The indentures (the *Indentures*) governing our senior and senior subordinated notes (the *Notes*) contain certain customary financial and other covenants, which limit us and our subsidiaries' ability to incur additional debt. At September 30, 2006, our Consolidated Coverage Ratio (as defined in the *Indentures*) was 2.80 to 1.00. The *Indentures* provide that we may not incur additional indebtedness, other than specified types of indebtedness, unless the Consolidated Coverage Ratio is at least 2.00 to 1.00. In the

event our Consolidated Coverage Ratio is below 2.00 to 1.00, the covenant limits our ability to incur additional indebtedness for borrowings under the Revolving Facility not to exceed the greater of \$200 million or 1.5 times Operating Cash Flow (as defined in the Indentures) for the four most recent quarters, plus \$15 million. The Indentures also give the holders of the Notes the right to require us to purchase the Notes at 101% of the principal amount of the Notes plus accrued interest thereon upon a Change of Control and Rating Decline (each as defined in the Indentures) of the Company. In addition, the indenture governing the senior notes contains a limitation on liens we can incur.

#### *Interest Rate Swaps*

We have entered into various interest rate swaps with members of our bank group to manage interest expense. As of September 30, 2006, we have interest rate swaps with a combined notional amount of \$550.0 million. We entered into a fair value hedge interest rate swap with a notional amount of \$50.0 million tied directly to our 6% senior notes converting a portion of our fixed-rate debt to a floating-rate based upon three-month LIBOR rates, terminating in April 2012. This interest rate swap qualifies for the shortcut method allowed under Statement of Financial Accounting Standards ( SFAS ) 133, Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities (and as amended by SFAS 138 and 149), which allows for an assumption of no ineffectiveness. As such, there is no income statement impact from changes in the fair value of the hedging instruments. Instead, the fair value of the instrument is recorded as an asset or liability on our balance sheet with an offsetting adjustment to the carrying value of the related debt. In accordance with SFAS 133, we recorded a liability of \$2.3 million and \$2.1 million as of September 30, 2006 and December 31, 2005, respectively, representing the fair value of this interest rate swap and a corresponding decrease in long-term debt, as this interest rate swap is considered highly effective under the criteria established by SFAS 133. We paid a rate based on LIBOR, which approximated 7.2% as of September 30, 2006 and received a fixed rate of 6.0%.

We have entered into two cash flow hedge interest rate swaps with a combined notional amount of \$500.0 million tied directly to our Revolving Facility converting a portion of our floating-rate debt to a fixed-rate based on three-month LIBOR rates, terminating December 2010. As of September 30, 2006, we paid a rate of 4.9% and received three-month LIBOR, which approximated 5.4%. These interest rate swaps are designated and qualify as cash flow hedges resulting in the effective portion of the gain or loss reported as a component of other comprehensive income (loss) with an offsetting adjustment to the carrying value of the related debt. For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006, we recorded other comprehensive loss of \$5.8 million and \$1.0 million, respectively, related to the change in market value of these interest rate swaps. As a result, we recorded an increase in long-term debt of \$1.7 million as of September 30, 2006 and \$0.8 million as of December 31, 2005.

The difference between amounts received and paid under such agreements, as well as any costs or fees, is recorded as a reduction of, or an addition to, interest expense as incurred over the life of the swaps. The net effect of the interest rate swaps resulted in a reduction of interest expense of \$103,000 and \$21,000 for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006, respectively and a reduction of interest expense of \$0.1 million and \$2.1 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2005, respectively.

#### *Green Valley Ranch Financing*

Green Valley Ranch is owned by a 50/50 joint venture between us and GCR Gaming. In December 2004, Green Valley Ranch entered into a new \$250 million Second Amended and Restated Loan Agreement (the Green Valley Facility ), which refinanced the existing \$250 million revolving credit facility and term loan. The Green Valley Facility extends the maturity of the revolving portion to December 2009 and the term loan portion to December 2011. The outstanding balance of the Green Valley Ranch revolving credit facility as of September 30, 2006 was approximately \$226.5 million.

*Common Stock*

We are authorized to issue up to 135 million shares of our common stock, \$0.01 par value per share, 80,444,627 shares of which were issued and 23,237,779 shares of which were held in treasury as of September 30, 2006. Each holder of our common stock is entitled to one vote for each share held of record on each matter submitted to a vote of stockholders. Holders of our common stock have no cumulative voting, conversion, redemption or preemptive rights or other rights to subscribe for additional shares other than pursuant to the Rights Plan described below. Subject to any preferences that may be granted to the holders of our preferred stock, each holder of common stock is entitled to receive ratably, such dividends as may be declared by our Board of Directors out of funds legally available therefore, as well as any distributions to the stockholders and, in the event of liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the Company, is entitled to share ratably in all of our assets that remain after payment of liabilities.

On December 4, 2006, we will pay a quarterly cash dividend of \$0.2875 per share to shareholders of record on November 13, 2006. During the nine months ended September 30, 2006, we paid a quarterly cash dividend of \$0.25 per share to shareholders of record on February 10, 2006 and May 12, 2006 and a quarterly cash dividend of \$0.2875 per share to shareholders of record on August 11, 2006 for a total of approximately \$48.9 million.

During the nine months ended September 30, 2005, we paid a quarterly cash dividend of \$0.21 per share to shareholders of record on February 11, 2005 and May 13, 2005 and quarterly cash dividend of \$0.25 per share to shareholders of record on August 12, 2005 for a total of approximately \$45.5 million.

*Preferred Stock*

We are authorized to issue up to 5 million shares of our preferred stock, \$0.01 par value per share of which none were issued. The Board of Directors, without further action by the holders of our common stock, may issue shares of preferred stock in one or more series and may fix or alter the rights, preferences, privileges and restrictions, including the voting rights, redemption provisions (including sinking fund provisions), dividend rights, dividend rates, liquidation rates, liquidation preferences, conversion rights and the description and number of shares constituting any wholly unissued series of preferred stock. Except as described above, our Board of Directors, without further stockholder approval, may issue shares of preferred stock with rights that could adversely affect the rights of the holders of our common stock. The issuance of shares of preferred stock under certain circumstances could have the effect of delaying or preventing a change of control of the Company or other corporate action.

*Treasury Stock*

During the three months ended September 30, 2006, we repurchased 2.6 million shares of our common stock for approximately \$142.5 million at an average price of \$55.79 per share. During the nine months ended September 30, 2006, we repurchased 12.7 million shares of our common stock for approximately \$880.0 million at an average price of \$69.20 per share, primarily through a combination of open market purchases and an accelerated stock buyback ( ASB ) program, completing the Company's previously authorized stock repurchase. Of the shares repurchased in the nine months ended September 30, 2006, 3.0 million shares related to the ASB program at a cost of approximately \$232 million. On July 24, 2006, the Board of Directors authorized the repurchase up to an additional 10.0 million shares. As of September 30, 2006 we are authorized to repurchase approximately 7.5 million additional shares of our common stock.

*Rights Plan*

On October 6, 1997, we declared a dividend of one preferred share purchase right (a Right ) for each outstanding share of common stock. The dividend was paid on October 21, 1997. Each Right entitles

the registered holder to purchase from us one one-hundredth of a share of Series A Preferred Stock, par value \$0.01 per share ( Preferred Shares ) at a price of \$40.00 per one one-hundredth of a Preferred Share, subject to adjustment. The Rights are not exercisable until the earlier of 10 days following a public announcement that a person or group of affiliated or associated persons have acquired beneficial ownership of 15% or more of our outstanding common stock ( Acquiring Person ) or 10 business days (or such later date as may be determined by action of the Board of Directors prior to such time as any person or group of affiliated persons becomes an Acquiring Person) following the commencement of, or announcement of an intention to make a tender offer or exchange offer, the consummation of which would result in the beneficial ownership by a person or group of 15% or more of our outstanding common stock.

The Rights will expire on October 21, 2007. Acquiring Persons do not have the same rights to receive common stock as other holders upon exercise of the Rights. Because of the nature of the Preferred Shares dividend, liquidation and voting rights, the value of one one-hundredth interest in a Preferred Share purchasable upon exercise of each Right should approximate the value of one common share. In the event that any person or group of affiliated or associated persons becomes an Acquiring Person, the proper provisions will be made so that each holder of a Right, other than Rights beneficially owned by the Acquiring Person (which will thereafter become void), will thereafter have the right to receive upon exercise that number of shares of common stock having a market value of two times the exercise price of the Right. In the event that the Company is acquired in a merger or other business combination transaction or 50% or more of our consolidated assets or earning power are sold after a person or group has become an Acquiring Person, proper provision will be made so that each holder of a Right will thereafter have the right to receive, upon exercise thereof, that number of shares of common stock of the acquiring company, which at the time of such transaction will have a market value of two times the exercise price of the Right. Because of the characteristics of the Rights in connection with a person or group of affiliated or associated persons becoming an Acquiring Person, the Rights may have the effect of making an acquisition of the Company more difficult and may discourage such an acquisition.

#### **Critical Accounting Policies**

A description of our critical accounting policies can be found in Item 7 of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2005. We present below a discussion of our policies related to share-based compensation which has been updated from the discussion in our Annual Report.

#### *Share-Based Compensation*

In December 2004, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued SFAS 123R, *Share-Based Payment*, replacing and superseding both SFAS 123, *Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation*, and APB Opinion 25, *Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees*. SFAS 123R requires fair value measurement and recognition in the financial statements for all share-based compensation arrangements. SFAS 123R also requires additional disclosures related to income tax effects and cash flows resulting from share-based compensation arrangements. Adoption of SFAS 123R on January 1, 2006 reduced earnings consistent with past pro forma share-based compensation disclosures for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006. See Note 6 to our financial statements for additional information.

#### **Forward-looking Statements**

When used in this report and elsewhere by management from time to time, the words *believes*, *anticipates* and *expects* and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements with respect to our financial condition, results of operations and our business including our expansion, development and acquisition projects, legal proceedings and employee matters. Certain important factors, including but not limited to, competition from other gaming operations, factors affecting our ability to complete acquisitions and dispositions of gaming properties, leverage, construction risks, the inherent

uncertainty and costs associated with litigation and governmental and regulatory investigations, and licensing and other regulatory risks, could cause our actual results to differ materially from those expressed in our forward-looking statements. Further information on potential factors which could affect our financial condition, results of operations and business including, without limitation, the expansion, development and acquisition projects, legal proceedings and employee matters are included in our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on any forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date thereof. We undertake no obligation to publicly release any revisions to such forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances after the date hereof.

### Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

Market risk is the risk of loss arising from adverse changes in market rates and prices, such as interest rates, foreign currency exchange rates and commodity prices. Our primary exposure to market risk is interest rate risk associated with our long-term debt. We attempt to limit our exposure to interest rate risk by managing the mix of our long-term borrowings and short-term borrowings under the Revolving Facility. Borrowings under the Revolving Facility bear interest at a margin above the Alternate Base Rate or the Eurodollar Rate (each as defined in the Revolving Facility) as selected by us. However, the amount of outstanding borrowings is expected to fluctuate and may be reduced from time to time. The Revolving Facility matures in December 2010.

The following table provides information about our long-term debt at September 30, 2006 (see also Description of Certain Indebtedness and Capital Stock ) (amounts in thousands):

	Maturity date	Face amount	Carrying value	Estimated fair value
Revolving Facility, weighted-average interest rate of approximately 7.4%	December 2010	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 1,087,200	\$ 1,087,200
6% senior notes	April 2012	450,000	448,691	433,688
7¾% senior notes	August 2016	400,000	400,000	414,500
6½% senior subordinated notes	February 2014	450,000	450,000	421,313
6⅞% senior subordinated notes	March 2016	700,000	707,575	658,000
6⅝% senior subordinated notes	March 2018	300,000	298,546	270,375
Other debt, weighted-average interest rate of approximately 6.0%	2007-2008	17,225	17,225	17,225
Market value of interest rate swaps	2010-2012	(617)	(617)	(617)
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 4,316,608</b>	<b>\$ 3,408,620</b>	<b>\$ 3,301,684</b>

We are also exposed to market risk in the form of fluctuations in interest rates and their potential impact upon our debt. This market risk is managed by utilizing derivative financial instruments in accordance with established policies and procedures. We evaluate our exposure to market risk by monitoring interest rates in the marketplace, and do not utilize derivative financial instruments for trading purposes. Our derivative financial instruments consist exclusively of interest rate swap agreements. Interest differentials resulting from these agreements are recorded on an accrual basis as an adjustment to interest expense. Interest rate swaps related to debt are matched with specific fixed-rate debt obligations.



Edgar Filing: STATION CASINOS INC - Form 10-Q

The following table provides information about our financial instruments that are sensitive to changes in interest rates (amounts in thousands):

	As of September 30,							
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Thereafter	Total	
Long-term debt (including current portion):								
Fixed-rate	\$ 134	\$ 5,476	\$ 150	\$ 159	\$ 167	\$ 2,312,081	\$ 2,318,167	
Weighted average interest rate	5.7 %	6.0 %	5.7 %	5.7 %	5.7 %	6.7 %	6.7 %	%
Variable-rate	\$ 348	\$ 326	\$ 106	\$ 114	\$ 1,087,322	\$ 2,854	\$ 1,091,070	
Weighted average interest rate	6.9 %	6.9 %	6.9 %	6.9 %	7.4 %	6.9 %	7.4 %	%
Interest rate swaps:								
Notional amount	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$ 500,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 550,000	
Average payable rate					5.1 %	7.2 %	5.3 %	%
Average receivable rate					5.4 %	6.0 %	5.4 %	%

**Item 4. Controls and Procedures**

As of the end of the period covered by this report, the Company conducted an evaluation, under the supervision and with the participation of the principal executive officer and principal financial officer, of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the Exchange Act)). Based on this evaluation, the principal executive officer and principal financial officer concluded that the Company's disclosure controls and procedures are effective to ensure that information required to be disclosed by the Company in reports that it files or submits under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in Securities and Exchange Commission rules and forms. There was no change in the Company's internal control over financial reporting during the Company's most recently completed fiscal quarter that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

**Part II OTHER INFORMATION****Item 1. Legal Proceedings**

Station Casinos and our subsidiaries are defendants in various lawsuits relating to routine matters incidental to our business. As with all litigation, no assurance can be provided as to the outcome and litigation inherently involves significant costs.

**Item 1A. Risk Factors**

A description of our risk factors can be found in Item 1A of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2005. There were no material changes to those risk factors during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006.

**Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds**

The table below sets forth the information with respect to purchases made by or on behalf of the Company of its common stock during the three months ended September 30, 2006 (unaudited):

Period	Total number of shares purchased(a)	Average price paid per share	Total number of shares purchased as part of publicly announced plans or programs	Maximum number of shares that may yet be purchased under the plans or programs(b)
July 1 31, 2006	209,813	\$ 55.32	183,200	9,816,800
August 1 31, 2006	2,341,516	\$ 55.83	2,341,516	7,475,284
September 1 30, 2006	2,431	\$ 57.67		7,475,284
Total	2,553,760	\$ 55.79	2,524,716	7,475,284

(a) The shares purchased by the Company during the three months ended September 30, 2006, consisted of 29,044 shares withheld to offset tax withholding obligations that occur upon vesting of restricted shares.

(b) On July 24, 2006, the Board of Directors authorized the Company to repurchase up to 10 million shares of its common stock, which essentially replenishes the previous authorization.

**Item 3. Defaults Upon Senior Securities** None.

**Item 4. Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders** None.

**Item 5. Other Information** None.

**Item 6. Exhibits**

(a) Exhibits

No. 31.1 Certification pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

No. 31.2 Certification pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

No. 32.1 Certification pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

No. 32.2 Certification pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.



**SIGNATURE**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

DATE: November 8, 2006

STATION CASINOS, INC.,

Registrant

/s/ GLENN C. CHRISTENSON

Glenn C. Christenson,

*Executive Vice President,*

*Chief Financial Officer and*

*Chief Administrative Officer*

(Principal Accounting Officer)

39

---