

MONARCH CASINO & RESORT INC
Form 10-K
March 17, 2008

United States
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

Form 10-K

(MARK ONE)

ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES
EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007

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 No. 0-22088

[Missing Graphic Reference]

MONARCH CASINO & RESORT, INC.
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Nevada
(State or Other Jurisdiction of
Incorporation or Organization)

88-0300760
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

3800 S. Virginia Street
Reno, Nevada
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

89502
(ZIP Code)

(Former Name, Former Address and Former Fiscal Year, if Changed Since Last Report)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (775) 335-4600

SECURITIES REGISTERED PURSUANT TO SECTION 12(b) OF THE ACT:

Name of each exchange
Title of each class on which registered
None None

SECURITIES REGISTERED PURSUANT TO SECTION 12(g) OF THE ACT:

COMMON STOCK, \$0.01 PAR VALUE
(Title of Class)

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. YES NO

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

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

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

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

Large accelerated filer Accelerated Filer Non-accelerated Filer Smaller reporting company

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

The aggregate market value of voting and non-voting common equity held by nonaffiliates as of June 30, 2007, based on the closing price as reported on The Nasdaq Stock Market (SM) of \$26.85 per share, was approximately \$383,215,793.

As of March 4, 2008, Registrant had 18,377,788 shares of Common Stock outstanding.

DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

Portions of the Proxy Statement for Registrant's 2008 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, which Proxy Statement shall be filed with the Commission not later than 120 days after the end of the fiscal year covered by this report, are incorporated by reference into Part III.

STATEMENTS IN THIS ANNUAL REPORT ON FORM 10-K WHICH EXPRESS THE "BELIEF", "ANTICIPATION", "INTENTION", "EXPECTATION", OR "SCHEDULES" AS WELL AS OTHER STATEMENTS WHICH ARE NOT HISTORICAL FACT, AND STATEMENTS AS TO BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES, MARKET CONDITIONS, COST ESTIMATIONS AND OPERATING PERFORMANCE INsofar AS THEY MAY APPLY PROSPECTIVELY, ARE FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS WITHIN THE MEANING OF SECTION 27A OF THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933 AND SECTION 21E OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 AND INVOLVE RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES THAT COULD CAUSE ACTUAL RESULTS TO DIFFER MATERIALLY FROM THOSE PROJECTED.

PART I

ITEM 1. BUSINESS

Monarch Casino & Resort, Inc. (the "Company" or "we"), through its wholly-owned subsidiary, Golden Road Motor Inn, Inc. ("Golden Road"), owns and operates the tropically-themed Atlantis Casino Resort Spa, a hotel/casino facility in Reno, Nevada (the "Atlantis"). Unless otherwise indicated, "Monarch" or the "Company" refers to Monarch Casino & Resort, Inc. and its Golden Road subsidiary. Monarch was incorporated in 1993 under Nevada law for the purpose of acquiring all of the stock of Golden Road. The principal asset of Monarch is the stock of Golden Road, which holds all of the assets of the Atlantis. Our principal executive offices are located at 3800 S. Virginia Street; Reno, Nevada 89502; telephone (775) 335-4600.

AVAILABLE INFORMATION

Our website address is www.monarchcasino.com. We make available free of charge on or through our internet website our annual report on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K, and amendments to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, as soon as reasonably practicable after we electronically file such material with, or furnish it to, the Securities and Exchange Commission.

THE ATLANTIS CASINO RESORT SPA

Through Golden Road, we own and operate the tropically-themed Atlantis Casino Resort Spa, which is located approximately three miles south of downtown in the generally more affluent and rapidly growing south area of Reno, Nevada. The Atlantis features approximately 51,000 square feet of casino space interspersed with waterfalls, giant artificial palm trees, thatched-roof huts, and other tropical decor; a hotel and a motor lodge with 969 guest rooms; nine food outlets; an enclosed year-round pool with waterfall; an outdoor pool; a health spa; two retail outlets offering clothing and traditional gift shop merchandise; a full service salon for men and women; an 8,000 square-foot family entertainment center; and approximately 25,000 square feet of banquet, convention and meeting room space.

In June 2007, we announced the groundbreaking on an expansion project with completion expected in the second quarter of 2008. New space will be added to the first floor casino level, the second and third floors and the basement level totaling approximately 116,000 square feet. The existing casino floor will be expanded by over 10,000 square feet, or approximately 20%. The first floor casino plans include a redesigned, updated and expanded race and sports book of approximately 4,000 square feet and an enlarged poker room. The expansion will also include a New York-style deli restaurant. The second floor expansion will create additional ballroom and convention space of approximately 27,000 square feet, doubling the existing facilities. The spa and fitness center will be remodeled and expanded to create an ultra-modern spa and fitness center facility. We also plan to add a pedestrian skywalk over Peckham Lane that will connect the Reno-Sparks Convention Center directly to the Atlantis. Construction of the skywalk is expected to be completed in the fourth quarter of 2008. The expansion is estimated to cost approximately \$50 million, and the Atlantis Convention Center Skybridge project is estimated to cost an additional \$12.5 million. Through December 31, 2007, the Company has paid approximately \$17.2 million of the estimated expansion and skybridge cost.

The Reno-Sparks Convention Center is located across the street from the Atlantis, the only hotel-casino within easy walking distance. The Reno-Sparks Convention Center offers approximately 570,000 square feet of exhibition, meeting room, ballroom, and lobby space.

ATLANTIS CASINO

The Atlantis Casino offers approximately 1,450 slot and video poker machines; approximately 38 table games, including blackjack, craps, roulette and others; a sports book (which is operated by a third party pursuant to a lease arrangement); Keno; and a poker room.

In January 2008, we filed an application with the Nevada Gaming Commission to be licensed to operate the race and sports book at the Atlantis, currently operated by a third party tenant. We anticipate a decision on this application in the second quarter of 2008.

The Atlantis offers what we believe are higher than average payout rates on slot machines relative to other northern Nevada casinos and has adopted liberal rules for its blackjack games, including the use of single decks of cards at some tables. We seek to attract high-end players through high quality amenities and services and by extension of gaming credit after a careful credit history evaluation.

HOTEL AND MOTOR LODGE

The Atlantis includes three contiguous high-rise hotel towers with 820 rooms and suites, and a low-rise motor lodge with another 149 rooms, for a total of 969 guest rooms. The first of the three hotel towers, which was completed in April 1991, contains 160 rooms and suites in 13 stories. The 19-story second hotel tower was completed in September 1994 and contains 278 rooms and suites. The third tower was completed in June 1999 and contains 382 rooms and suites in 28 stories. The rooms on the top seven floors in the third tower are nearly 20% larger than the standard guest rooms and offer key card elevator access, upscale accommodations and a private concierge service.

The Atlantis hotel rooms feature upbeat, colorful interior decorations and furnishings consistent with the Atlantis' tropical theme, as well as nine-foot ceilings (most standard hotel rooms have eight-foot ceilings), which create an open and spacious feel. The newest hotel tower features a four-story waterfall with an adjacent year-round swimming pool in a climate controlled, five-story glass enclosure, which shares an outdoor third floor pool deck with a seasonal outdoor swimming pool and year round whirlpool. A full service salon (the "Salon at Atlantis") overlooks the third floor sundeck and outdoor seasonal swimming pool and offers salon-grade products and treatments for hair, nails, skincare and body services for both men and women. A health spa is located adjacent to the swimming areas. The hotel also features glass elevators rising the full 19 and 28 stories, respectively, of the two taller hotel towers, providing panoramic views of the Reno area and the Sierra Nevada mountain range separating Nevada from California.

The 149-room motor lodge is a two-story structure located adjacent to the hotel. The motor lodge rooms, which are also decorated and furnished in a manner consistent with the Atlantis' tropical theme, are smaller than the tower hotel rooms and have standard eight-foot ceilings. We believe the motor lodge rooms appeal to value conscious travelers who still want to enjoy the experience and amenities of a first-class hotel-casino resort.

The average occupancy rate and average daily room rate at the Atlantis for the following periods were:

	Years ended		
	December 31,		
	2007	2006	2005
Occupancy rate	93.80%	93.30%	93.00%
Average daily room rate	\$ 74.04	\$ 69.87	\$ 63.24

We continually monitor and adjust hotel room rates based upon demand and other competitive factors. Our average daily room rate has also been impacted by rooms sold at discounted rates to select wholesale operators for tour and travel packages.

RESTAURANTS AND DINING

The Atlantis has seven restaurants, one snack bar and one gourmet coffee bar, as described below.

- The 600-seat Toucan Charlie's Buffet & Grill, which offers a wide variety of standard hot food selections, salads and seafood, specialty substations featuring made-to-order items such as Mongolian barbecue, fresh Southwest and Asian specialties, meats roasted in wood-fired rotisserie ovens, two salad stations, and a wide variety of freshly made desserts.
 - The 135-seat, aquatic-themed Atlantis Seafood Steakhouse gourmet restaurant.
 - The 200-seat, upscale MonteVigna Italian Ristorante, featuring a centrally located wine cellar.
 - The Oyster Bar restaurant in the Sky Terrace offering fresh seafood, soups and bisques made to order.
- The Sushi Bar, also in the Sky Terrace, offering a variety of fresh raw and cooked sushi specialties, including all-you-can-eat lunch and dinner selections. Combined, the Oyster Bar and Sushi Bar can accommodate up to 139 guests.
 - The 178-seat 24-hour Purple Parrot coffee shop.
- The 122-seat Cafe Alfresco restaurant serving pizzas prepared in a wood-fired, brick oven and a variety of gelato deserts.
- A gourmet coffee bar, offering specialty coffee drinks, pastries and desserts made fresh daily in the Atlantis bakery.
 - A snack bar and soda fountain serving ice cream and arcade-style refreshments.

THE SKY TERRACE

The Sky Terrace is a unique structure with a diamond-shaped, blue glass body suspended approximately 55 feet above street level and spanning 160 feet across South Virginia Street. The Sky Terrace connects the Atlantis with additional parking on a 16-acre site owned by us across South Virginia Street from the Atlantis. The structure rests at each end on two 100-foot tall Grecian columns with no intermediate support pillars. The tropically-themed interior of the Sky Terrace contains the Oyster Bar, a video poker bar, banks of slot machines, a lounge area with oversized leather sofas and chairs and the Sushi Bar.

Operations at the Atlantis are conducted 24 hours a day, every day of the year. The Atlantis' business is seasonal in nature, with higher revenues during the summer months and lower revenues during the winter months.

ATLANTIS IMPROVEMENTS

We have continuously invested in upgrading the Atlantis. Our capital expenditures at the Atlantis were \$17.3 million in 2007, \$5.8 million in 2006 and \$6.1 million in 2005.

During 2007, capital expenditures primarily consisted of construction costs associated with the current expansion phase of the Atlantis that commenced in June 2007, and the acquisition of gaming equipment to upgrade and replace existing gaming equipment. During 2006, capital expenditures primarily consisted of acquisition of gaming and computer equipment, the installation of a casino high-definition video display system, renovation of our Java Coast Gourmet Coffee and pastry bar, initial design and planning expenditures associated with our Atlantis expansion and ongoing public area renovations and upgrades. During 2005, capital expenditures primarily consisted of the replacement of and upgrade to our ventilation and cooling system, acquisition of gaming and computer systems equipment, and continued renovations to the facility.

ADDITIONAL EXPANSION POTENTIAL

LAND CURRENTLY OWNED: Our expansion potential at the current site is twofold. First, we could further expand our existing hotel and casino, thereby giving us more hotel rooms, amenities and more room for additional casino space. Second, we could expand by developing the 16-acre parcel that we own across the street from the Atlantis. This site is connected to the Atlantis by the Sky Terrace and is currently used for parking and special events related to the Atlantis. Our 16-acre parcel meets all current Reno zoning requirements in the event we decide to build another resort casino or entertainment facility.

EFFORTS TO ACQUIRE ADDITIONAL LAND: On May 3, 2006, Monarch notified Ben Farahi, in his capacity as the manager of Maxum, LLC, the general partner of Biggest Little Investment L.P. (“BLI”), that the board of directors of Monarch wished to commence negotiations for purchasing the 18.95 acre shopping center property (the “Shopping Center”) owned by BLI located adjacent to the Atlantis. On July 26, 2006, Monarch submitted a formal offer, formulated and delivered by a committee comprised of the Company’s independent directors (the “Committee”), to purchase the Shopping Center. On October 16, 2006, the Committee received a letter from counsel to BLI advising the Company that BLI, through its general partner, Maxum, L.L.C., had “decided that such offer is not in the best interest of the Partnership’s limited partners and, therefore, will not be entering into negotiations with Monarch.” The Board of Directors continues to consider expansion alternatives. While there have been subsequent communications between BLI and us from time to time regarding our interest in the Shopping Center, nothing has resulted.

Collectively, John Farahi, Bob Farahi and Ben Farahi, beneficially own a controlling interest in BLI through their beneficial ownership interest in Western Real Estate Investments, LLC.

MARKETING STRATEGY

The Reno/Tahoe region is a major gaming and leisure destination with gaming revenues of approximately \$1 billion.

Our revenues and operating income are principally dependent on the level of gaming activity at the Atlantis casino. Our predominant marketing goal is to utilize all of the Atlantis facilities to generate additional casino play. Our secondary goal is to maximize revenues from our hotel, food and beverage, cocktail lounges, convention and meeting rooms, retail and other amenities.

Our marketing efforts are directed toward three broad consumer groups: leisure travelers, conventioners and northern Nevada residents. We believe the Atlantis' location outside of downtown Reno, near the airport, near major freeway arteries and across the street from the Reno-Sparks Convention Center makes the facility appealing to all three groups.

LEISURE TRAVELERS: The Reno/Tahoe region is a popular gaming and vacation destination that enjoys convenient air service from cities throughout the United States. The principal segments of Reno's leisure traveler market are independent travelers, package tour and travel guests, guests we reach through the world-wide-web and high-end players. We attempt to maximize our gaming revenues and hotel occupancy through a balanced marketing approach that addresses each market segment.

Independent travelers make reservations directly with hotels of their choice or through independent travel agents. We strive to attract the middle to upper-middle income strata of this consumer segment through advertising and direct marketing. This segment represents a large portion of the Atlantis' guests.

The package tour and travel segment consists of visitors who utilize travel packages offered by wholesale operators. We market to this segment through relationships with select wholesalers, primarily to generate guest visits and supplement mid-week occupancy.

We welcome domestic and international reservations on the Atlantis' website www.atlantiscasino.com and are featured on major package tour and travel websites.

We market to high-end players selectively through direct sales. We utilize complimentary rooms, food and beverage, special events and the extension of gaming credit to attract, and maintain patronage from, high-end players.

CONVENTIONEERS: Convention business, like package tour and travel business, supplements occupancy during lower-demand periods. Conventioneers also typically pay higher average room rates than non-conventioneers. We selectively seek convention and meeting groups that we believe will materially enhance the Atlantis' occupancy and daily room rates, as well as those we believe will be more likely to utilize our gaming products. As the only hotel-casino within easy walking distance of the Reno-Sparks Convention Center, the Atlantis is, in our view, uniquely positioned to capitalize on this expanding segment. We believe the Reno-Sparks Convention Center has created, and we expect will continue to create, additional guest traffic for the Atlantis within this market segment that is presently underserved in the Reno area. As described in the "THE ATLANTIS CASINO RESORT SPA" section above, an enclosed pedestrian skywalk over Peckham Lane that will connect the Atlantis directly into the Reno-Sparks Convention Center facilities is presently under construction

We market to all guest segments, including conventioneers, on the basis of the location, quality and ambiance of the Atlantis facility, gaming values, friendly, efficient service, and the quality and relative value of Atlantis rooms, food and beverage offerings, entertainment and promotions.

Our frequent player club, "Club Paradise," allows our guests to be eligible to receive rewards and privileges based on the amount of their play, while allowing us to track their play through a computerized system. We use this information to determine appropriate levels of complimentary awards, and for guiding our direct marketing efforts. We believe that Club Paradise significantly enhances our ability to build guest loyalty and generate repeat guest visits.

NORTHERN NEVADA RESIDENTS: We market to northern Nevada residents (referred to from time to time as "Locals") on the basis of the Atlantis' location and accessibility, convenient surface parking, gaming values, ambiance, friendly, efficient service, and quality and relative value of food and beverage offerings, entertainment and promotions.

COMPETITION

Competition in the Reno area gaming market is intense. Based on information obtained from the December 31, 2007 Gaming Revenue Report published by the Nevada State Gaming Control Board, there are approximately 13 casinos in the Reno area which generate more than \$12.0 million each in annual gaming revenues.

We believe that the Atlantis' primary competition for leisure travelers comes from other large-scale casinos that offer amenities that appeal to middle to upper-middle income guests. We compete for leisure travelers on the basis of the desirability of our location, the quality and ambiance of the Atlantis facility, friendly, efficient service, the quality and relative value of its rooms and food and beverage offerings, entertainment offerings, promotions and gaming values. We believe that our location away from downtown Reno is appealing to newer and more affluent guests.

We believe that the Atlantis' primary competition for conventioneers comes from other large-scale hotel casinos in the Reno area that actively target the convention market segment, and from other cities in the western United States with large convention facilities and substantial hotel capacity, including Las Vegas. We compete for conventioneers based on the desirability of our location, the quality and ambiance of the Atlantis facility, meeting and banquet rooms designed to appeal to conventions and groups, friendly, efficient service, and the quality and relative value of its rooms and food and beverage offerings. We believe that the Atlantis' proximity to the Reno-Sparks Convention Center affords us a distinct competitive advantage in attracting conventioneers.

We believe that the Atlantis' competition for northern Nevada residents comes primarily from other large-scale casinos located outside of downtown Reno that offer amenities that appeal to middle to upper-middle income guests, and secondarily with those casinos located in downtown Reno that offer similar amenities. We compete for northern Nevada residents primarily on the basis of the desirability of our location, the quality and ambiance of the Atlantis facility, friendly, efficient service, the quality and relative value of our food and beverage offerings, entertainment offerings, promotions and gaming values. We believe the Atlantis' proximity to residential areas in south Reno and its abundant surface parking provide us an advantage over the casinos located in downtown Reno in attracting Locals.

Station Casinos, Inc., a casino operator operating primarily in the Las Vegas market, has acquired several parcels in the Reno area and has announced plans to build two casinos, one of which will be located within one mile of our Atlantis Casino Resort Spa. Station is a dominant casino operator catering to tourists and local residents in the Las Vegas market. Should Station proceed with its plans to build one or more facilities in Reno, Station will create additional competition for us and could have a material adverse impact on our business. We also believe, however, that Station's plans could create a "mini strip" concentration of casinos near the Atlantis which could draw gaming patrons away from the downtown Reno casinos to properties in this "mini strip" area.

The Atlantis also competes for gaming guests with hotel casino operations located in other parts of Nevada, especially Las Vegas and Lake Tahoe, and with hotel casinos, Indian casinos, and riverboat casinos located elsewhere throughout the United States and the world. We believe that the Atlantis also competes to a lesser extent with state-sponsored lotteries, off-track wagering, card parlors, and other forms of legalized gaming, particularly in northern California and the Pacific Northwest.

The constitutional amendment approved by California voters in 2000 allowing the expansion of Indian casinos in California has had an adverse impact on casino revenues in Nevada in general, and many analysts have continued to predict the impact will be more significant on the Reno-Lake Tahoe market. The extent of this continued impact is difficult to predict, but we believe that the impact on us will continue to be mitigated to some extent by the revenue generated from the Reno area residents and our proximity to the Reno-Sparks Convention Center. However, if other Reno area casinos continue to suffer business losses due to increased pressure from California Indian casinos, they may intensify their marketing efforts to Reno-area residents as well. However, we believe our numerous amenities, such as a wide array of restaurants, a video arcade, banquet facilities and surface parking are key advantages in our ability to attract Locals that competitor facilities cannot easily match without major capital expenditures.

Certain experienced Nevada gaming operators have agreements to build and manage Indian casino facilities near San Francisco, one of Reno's key feeder markets. Once these facilities receive all the required permits and are built, they could provide an alternative for drive market guests to Reno area casinos, especially during certain winter periods when auto travel through the Sierra Nevada mountain passes is hampered. One major facility near Sacramento has been operating since June 2003 and has been very successful, adversely impacting many hotel casinos in Reno.

We also believe that the legalization of unlimited land-based casino gaming in or near any major metropolitan area in the Atlantis' feeder markets, such as San Francisco or Sacramento, could have a material adverse impact on our business.

In June 2004, five California Indian tribes signed compacts with the state that allow the tribes to increase the number of slot machines beyond the previous 2,000-per-tribe limit in exchange for higher fees from each of the five tribes. In February 2008, the voters of the State of California approved compacts with four tribes located in Southern California that increases the limit of Native American operated slot machines in the State of California.

REGULATION AND LICENSING

The ownership and operation of casino gaming facilities in Nevada are subject to the Nevada Gaming Control Act and the regulations promulgated thereunder, referred to as the Nevada Act, and various local regulations. Our gaming operations are subject to the licensing and regulatory control of the Nevada Gaming Commission, the Nevada State Gaming Control Board, and the Reno City Council, referred to collectively as the Nevada Gaming Authorities.

The laws, regulations and supervisory procedures of the Nevada Gaming Authorities are based upon declarations of public policy that are concerned with, among other things:

- the prevention of unsavory or unsuitable persons from having a direct or indirect involvement with gaming at any time or in any capacity;
 - the establishment and maintenance of responsible accounting practices and procedures;
- the maintenance of effective controls over the financial practices of licensees, including the establishment of minimum procedures for internal fiscal affairs and the safeguarding of assets and revenues, providing reliable record keeping and requiring the filing of periodic reports with the Nevada Gaming Authorities;
 - the prevention of cheating and fraudulent practices; and
 - providing a source of state and local revenues through taxation and licensing fees.

Changes in such laws, regulations and procedures could have an adverse effect on our gaming operations.

Golden Road, our subsidiary which operates the Atlantis, is required to be licensed by the Nevada Gaming Authorities. The gaming license requires the periodic payment of fees and taxes and is not transferable. We are registered by the Nevada Gaming Commission as a publicly traded, or Registered Corporation. As such, we are required periodically to submit detailed financial and operating reports to the Nevada Gaming Commission and furnish any other information that the Nevada Gaming Commission may require. No person may become a stockholder of, or receive any percentage of profits from, Golden Road without first obtaining licenses and approvals from the Nevada Gaming Authorities. Golden Road and Monarch have obtained from the Nevada Gaming Authorities the various registrations, approvals, permits and licenses required in order to engage in gaming activities in Nevada.

The Nevada Gaming Authorities may investigate any individual who has a material relationship to, or material involvement with, Golden Road or Monarch in order to determine whether that individual is suitable or should be licensed as a business associate of a gaming licensee. Officers, directors and key employees of Golden Road must file applications with the Nevada Gaming Authorities and may be required to be licensed or found suitable by the Nevada Gaming Authorities. Our officers, directors and key employees who are actively and directly involved in gaming activities of Golden Road may be required to be licensed or found suitable by the Nevada Gaming Authorities. The Nevada Gaming Authorities may deny an application for licensing for any cause that they deem reasonable. A finding of suitability is comparable to licensing, and both require submission of detailed personal and financial information followed by a thorough investigation. Applicants for licensing or a finding of suitability must pay all costs of the investigation. Changes in licensed positions must be reported to the Nevada Gaming Authorities. In addition to their authority to deny an application for a finding of suitability or licensure, the Nevada Gaming Authorities also have jurisdiction to disapprove a change in a corporate position.

If the Nevada Gaming Authorities were to find an officer, director or key employee unsuitable for licensing or unsuitable to continue having a relationship with Golden Road or us, the companies involved would have to sever all relationships with that person. In addition, the Nevada Gaming Commission may require that we terminate the employment of any person who refuses to file appropriate applications. Determinations of suitability or of questions pertaining to licensing are not subject to judicial review in Nevada.

We are required to submit detailed financial and operating reports to the Nevada Gaming Commission. Substantially all material loans, leases, sales of securities and similar financing transactions by us must be reported to, or approved by, the Nevada Gaming Commission.

If it were determined that we violated the Nevada Act, our gaming licenses and registrations with the Nevada Gaming Commission could be limited, conditioned, suspended or revoked, subject to compliance with certain statutory and regulatory procedures. In addition, we and the persons involved could be subject to substantial fines for each separate violation of the Nevada Act at the discretion of the Nevada Commission. Further, the Nevada Gaming Commission could appoint a supervisor to operate our gaming properties and, under certain circumstances, earnings generated during the supervisor's appointment (except for the reasonable rental value of our gaming properties) could be forfeited to the State of Nevada. The limitation, conditioning or suspension of any gaming license or the appointment of a supervisor could (and revocation of any gaming license would) materially adversely affect our gaming operations.

Any beneficial holder of our voting securities, regardless of the number of shares owned, may be required to file an application, be investigated, and have his suitability as a beneficial holder of our voting securities determined if the Nevada Gaming Commission has reason to believe that such ownership would otherwise be inconsistent with the declared policies of the State of Nevada. The applicant must pay all costs of investigation incurred by the Nevada Gaming Authorities in conducting any such investigation.

The Nevada Gaming Act requires any person who acquires more than 5% of Monarch's voting securities to report the acquisition to the Nevada Gaming Commission. The Nevada Act requires that beneficial owners of more than 10% of our voting securities apply to the Nevada Gaming Commission for a finding of suitability within 30 days after the Chairman of the Nevada Gaming Control Board mails the written notice requiring such filing. Under certain circumstances, an "institutional investor," as defined in the Nevada Act, which acquires more than 10%, but not more than 15%, of our voting securities may apply to the Nevada Gaming Commission for a waiver of such finding of suitability if the institutional investor holds the voting securities for investment purposes only. An institutional investor is not deemed to hold voting securities for investment purposes unless they were acquired and are held in the ordinary course of business as an institutional investor and not for the purpose of causing, directly or indirectly, the election of a majority of the members of our board of directors, any change in our corporate charter, bylaws, management, policies or operations, or any of our gaming affiliates, or any other action that the Nevada Gaming Commission finds to be inconsistent with holding our voting securities for investment purposes only. Activities that are not deemed to be inconsistent with holding voting securities for investment purposes only include:

- voting on all matters voted on by stockholders;
- making financial and other inquiries of management of the type normally made by securities analysts for informational purposes and not to cause a change in its management, policies or operations; and
- such other activities as the Nevada Gaming Commission may determine to be consistent with such investment intent.

If the beneficial holder of voting securities who must be found suitable is a corporation, partnership or trust, it must submit detailed business and financial information including a list of beneficial owners. The applicant is required to pay all costs of investigation.

Any person who fails or refuses to apply for a finding of suitability or a license within 30 days after being ordered to do so by the Nevada Gaming Commission or the Chairman of the Nevada State Gaming Control Board may be found unsuitable. The same restrictions apply to a record owner if the record owner, after request, fails to identify the beneficial owner. Any stockholder found unsuitable and who holds, directly or indirectly, any beneficial ownership of the common stock of a Registered Corporation beyond such period of time as may be prescribed by the Nevada Gaming Commission may be guilty of a criminal offense. We are subject to disciplinary action if, after we receive notice that a person is unsuitable to be a stockholder or to have any other relationship with us, we:

- pay that person any dividend or interest upon voting securities,
- allow that person to exercise, directly or indirectly, any voting right conferred through securities held by that person,

- pay remuneration in any form to that person for services rendered or otherwise, or
- fail to pursue all lawful efforts to require such unsuitable person to relinquish his voting securities for cash at fair market value.

The Nevada Gaming Commission may, in its discretion, require the holder of any debt security of a Registered Corporation to file applications, be investigated and be found suitable to own the debt security of a Registered Corporation. If the Nevada Gaming Commission determines that a person is unsuitable to own such security, then pursuant to the Nevada Act, the Registered Corporation can be sanctioned, including the loss of its approvals if, without the prior approval of the Nevada Gaming Commission, it:

- pays to the unsuitable person any dividend, interest, or any distribution;
- recognizes any voting right by such unsuitable person in connection with such securities;
 - pays the unsuitable person remuneration in any form; or
- makes any payment to the unsuitable person by way of principal, redemption, conversion, exchange, liquidation or similar transaction.

We are required to maintain a current stock ledger in Nevada, and the Nevada Gaming Authorities may examine the ledger at any time. If any securities are held in trust by an agent or a nominee, the record holder may be required to disclose the identity of the beneficial owner to the Nevada Gaming Authorities. A failure to make such disclosure may be grounds for finding the record holder unsuitable. We are also required to render maximum assistance in determining the identity of the beneficial owner. The Nevada Gaming Commission has the power to require our stock certificates to bear a legend indicating that the securities are subject to the Nevada Act.

We may not make a public offering of our securities without the prior approval of the Nevada Gaming Commission if the securities or proceeds there from are intended to be used to construct, acquire or finance gaming facilities in Nevada, or to retire or extend obligations incurred for purposes of constructing, acquiring or financing gaming facilities. Any approval, if granted, does not constitute a finding, recommendation or approval by the Nevada Gaming Commission or the Nevada Gaming Control Board as to the accuracy or adequacy of the prospectus or the investment merits of the securities offered. Any representation to the contrary is unlawful.

Changes in our control through merger, consolidation, stock or asset acquisitions, management or consulting agreements, or any act or conduct by a person whereby that person obtains control (including foreclosure on the pledged shares), may not occur without the prior approval of the Nevada Gaming Commission. Entities seeking to acquire control of a Registered Corporation must satisfy the Nevada State Gaming Control Board and Nevada Gaming Commission in a variety of stringent standards prior to assuming control of such Registered Corporation. The Nevada Gaming Commission may also require controlling stockholders, officers, directors and other persons having a material relationship or involvement with the entity proposing to acquire control, to be investigated and licensed as part of the approval process relating to the transaction.

The Nevada legislature has declared that some corporate acquisitions opposed by management, repurchases of voting securities and corporate defense tactics affecting Nevada gaming licensees, and Registered Corporations that are affiliated with those operations, may be injurious to stable and productive corporate gaming. The Nevada Gaming Commission has established a regulatory scheme to ameliorate the potentially adverse effects of these business practices upon Nevada's gaming industry and to further Nevada's policy to:

- assure the financial stability of corporate gaming operators and their affiliates;
- preserve the beneficial aspects of conducting business in the corporate form; and
- promote a neutral environment for the orderly governance of corporate affairs.

We are, in certain circumstances, required to receive approval from the Nevada Gaming Commission before we can make exceptional repurchases of voting securities above their current market price and before we can consummate a

corporate acquisition opposed by management. The Nevada Act also requires prior approval of a plan of recapitalization proposed by our board of directors in response to a tender offer made directly to a Registered Corporation's stockholders for the purposes of acquiring control of the Registered Corporation.

Licensee fees and taxes, computed in various ways depending on the type of gaming or activity involved, are payable to the State of Nevada and to the counties and cities in which the Nevada licensee's respective operations are conducted. Depending upon the particular fee or tax involved, these fees and taxes are payable monthly, quarterly or annually and are based upon either:

- a percentage of the gross revenues received;
- the number of gaming devices operated; or
- the number of table games operated.

A live entertainment tax is also paid where entertainment is furnished in connection with the selling of food or refreshments. Nevada licensees that hold a license as an operator of a slot route, a manufacturer or a distributor also pay certain fees and taxes to the State of Nevada.

Any person who is licensed, required to be licensed, registered, required to be registered, or is under common control with such persons, referred to as Licensees, and who is or proposes to become involved in a gaming venture outside of Nevada is required to deposit with the Nevada State Gaming Control Board, and thereafter maintain, a revolving fund in the amount of \$10,000 to pay the expenses of investigation by the Nevada State Gaming Control Board of their participation in foreign gaming. The revolving fund is subject to increase or decrease in the discretion of the Nevada Gaming Commission. Thereafter, Licensees are required to comply with certain reporting requirements imposed by the Nevada Act. Licensees are also subject to disciplinary action by the Nevada Gaming Commission if they knowingly violate any laws of the foreign jurisdiction pertaining to the foreign gaming operation, fail to conduct the foreign gaming operation in accordance with the standards of honesty and integrity required of Nevada gaming operations, engage in activities that are harmful to the State of Nevada or its ability to collect gaming taxes and fees, or employ a person in the foreign operation who has been denied a license or finding of suitability in Nevada on the ground of personal unsuitability.

In January 2008, we filed an application with the Nevada Gaming Commission to be licensed to operate the race and sports book at the Atlantis, currently operated by a third party tenant. We anticipate a decision on this application in the second quarter of 2008.

EMPLOYEES

As of February 14, 2008, we had approximately 1,850 employees. None of our employees are covered by collective bargaining agreements. We believe that our relationship with our employees is good.

ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS

Our business prospects are subject to various risks and uncertainties that impact our business. You should carefully consider the following discussion of risks, and the other information provided in this annual report on Form 10-K. The risks described below are not the only ones facing us. Additional risks that are presently unknown to us or that we currently deem immaterial may also impact our business.

RECENT INSTABILITY IN THE FINANCIAL MARKETS MAY HAVE AN IMPACT ON OUR BUSINESS

Recently, the residential real estate market in Reno and the U.S. has experienced a significant downturn due to declining real estate values, substantially reducing mortgage loan originations and securitizations, and precipitating more generalized credit market dislocations and a significant contraction in available liquidity globally. These factors, combined with rising oil prices, declining business and consumer confidence and increased unemployment, have precipitated an economic slowdown and fears of a possible recession. Individual consumers are experiencing higher delinquency rates on various consumer loans and defaults on indebtedness of all kinds have increased. Further declines in real estate values in Reno and the U.S. or elsewhere and continuing credit and liquidity concerns could have an adverse affect on our results of operations.

CONSTRUCTION RELATED DISRUPTIONS TO OUR BUSINESS COULD IMPACT OUR BUSINESS OPERATIONS

As discussed above in “Item 1. Business - The Atlantis Casino Resort Spa” we commenced construction on an expansion project to the Atlantis in the second quarter of 2007. The expected construction period of twelve months will continue into the second quarter of 2008. During the construction period, there could be disruption to our operations from various construction activities. In addition, the construction activity may make it inconvenient for our patrons to access certain locations and amenities at the Atlantis which may in turn cause certain patrons to patronize other Reno area casinos rather than deal with construction-related inconveniences. As a result, our business and our results of operations may be adversely impacted so long as we are experiencing construction related operational disruption.

THE GAMING INDUSTRY IS HIGHLY COMPETITIVE AND INCREASED COMPETITION COULD HAVE A MATERIAL ADVERSE EFFECT ON OUR FUTURE OPERATIONS

The gaming industry is highly competitive. As competitive pressures from California Native American casinos increase, other Reno area casinos may intensify their targeting of the Reno area resident market, which is one of our key markets. Increased competitive pressures in the local market could adversely impact our ability to continue to attract local residents to the Atlantis or require us to use more expensive and therefore less profitable promotions to compete more efficiently.

Several Native American casinos have opened in Northern California since passage of the 2000 constitutional amendment. Certain experienced Nevada gaming operators manage Indian casino facilities near Sacramento, one of Reno's key feeder markets. One major facility near Sacramento has been operating since June 2003 and has been very successful, adversely impacting many hotel casinos in Reno. Central and Northern California gaming facilities could provide an alternative to Reno area casinos, especially during certain winter periods when auto travel through the Sierra Nevada mountain passes is hampered. This loss of California drive-in guests could adversely affect our operations.

We also believe that the legalization of unlimited land-based casino gaming in or near any major metropolitan area in the Atlantis' key non-Reno marketing areas, such as San Francisco or Sacramento, could have a material adverse impact on our business.

In June 2004, five California Indian tribes signed compacts with the state that allow the tribes to increase the number of slot machines beyond the previous 2,000-per-tribe limit in exchange for higher fees from each of the five tribes. In February 2008, the voters of the State of California approved compacts with four tribes located in Southern California that increase the limit of Native American operated slot machines in the State of California.

Other states are also considering legislation that would enable the development and operation of casinos or casino-like operations.

In addition, Native American gaming facilities in California and other jurisdictions in some instances operate under regulatory requirements less stringent than those imposed on Nevada licensed casinos, which could provide them a competitive advantage in our markets. Moreover, increases in the popularity of, and competition from, Internet and other account wagering gaming services, which allow their guests to wager on a wide variety of sporting events and play Las Vegas-style casino games from home, could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, operating results and prospects.

OUR BUSINESS MAY BE ADVERSELY IMPACTED BY THE ENTRY OF STATION CASINOS IN THE RENO MARKET

Station Casinos, Inc., a casino operator operating primarily in the Las Vegas market and catering mainly to Las Vegas area residents, has acquired several parcels in the Reno area and has announced plans to build two casinos, one of which will be located within one mile of our Atlantis Casino Resort Spa. Station Casinos is the dominant casino operator catering to local residents in the Las Vegas market. Should Station Casinos proceed with its plans, it will create additional competition for us in the Reno area resident, conventioner and tour and travel markets and could have a material adverse impact on our business.

COST OVERRUNS AND DELAYS ON EXPANSION PROJECTS COULD ADVERSELY AFFECT OUR BUSINESS

We began construction in the second quarter of 2007 on the next expansion phase of the Atlantis. A variety of factors outside our control, such as weather and difficulties in obtaining permits or other regulatory approvals, as well as the performance by third party contractors, may result in increased costs or delays in construction. Cost overruns or delays in completing a project could have an adverse effect on our results of operations and cash flows.

OUR BUSINESS MAY BE ADVERSELY IMPACTED IF THE RENO ECONOMY DECLINES

We market to and rely upon business from Reno area residents. In recent years, Reno has enjoyed robust business growth and has attracted a number of technology, product distribution and marketing companies. These businesses have created jobs and helped fuel residential development, including the southwest Reno metropolitan area near the Atlantis. Should there be adverse changes in the business and employment conditions in Reno, our business could be adversely impacted.

OUR BUSINESS MAY BE ADVERSELY IMPACTED BY EXPANDED NATIVE AMERICAN GAMING OPERATIONS IN CALIFORNIA AND THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST

A large source of leisure traveler guests is California and the Pacific Northwest, including a large number who drive to Reno from the San Francisco and Sacramento metropolitan areas. Several large-scale Native American-owned casino facilities have commenced operations in that state, some of which are located close to our key markets. The increased competition from these facilities could have a material adverse impact on our business.

OUR BUSINESS MAY BE ADVERSELY IMPACTED IF WE ARE UNABLE TO ADEQUATELY STAFF OUR OPERATIONS

The robust business growth Reno has enjoyed in recent years has increased the competition for employees. The new and growing businesses in the area have created job opportunities that at times have exceeded the area's supply of qualified employees. The unemployment rate in the Reno area has been significantly lower than the national average over the last several years. If we are unable to attract and retain qualified employees, or if competition for employees results in materially increased wages, our ability to maintain and grow our business could be adversely impacted.

OUR BUSINESS MAY BE ADVERSELY IMPACTED BY WEAKENED ECONOMIC CONDITIONS IN CALIFORNIA AND THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST

Because California and the Pacific Northwest are significant markets for our leisure traveler and conventioner guests, our business may be adversely impacted in the event of weakened economic conditions in those geographical markets.

OUR BUSINESS MAY BE ADVERSELY IMPACTED BY DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

The terrorist attacks that took place in the United States on September 11, 2001, were unprecedented events that created economic and business uncertainties, especially for the travel and tourism industry. The potential for future terrorist attacks, the national and international responses, and other acts of war or hostility, including the ongoing conflict in Iraq, have created economic and political uncertainties that could materially adversely affect our business, results of operations and financial condition in ways we cannot predict.

AN OUTBREAK OF HIGHLY INFECTIOUS DISEASE COULD ADVERSELY AFFECT THE NUMBER OF VISITORS TO OUR FACILITIES AND DISRUPT OUR OPERATIONS, RESULTING IN A MATERIAL ADVERSE EFFECT ON OUR FINANCIAL CONDITION, RESULTS OF OPERATIONS AND CASH FLOWS

There have been recent fears concerning the spread of an “avian flu” and cruise ships have reported other highly infectious virus outbreaks. Potential future outbreaks of highly infectious diseases may adversely affect the number of visitors to our property and our business and prospects. Furthermore, an outbreak might disrupt our ability to adequately staff our business and could generally disrupt our operations. If any of our guests or employees is suspected of having contracted certain highly contagious diseases, we may be required to quarantine these customers or employees or the affected areas of our facilities and temporarily suspend part or all of our operations at affected facilities. Any new outbreak of such a highly infectious disease could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

FAILURE OF THE RENO-SPARKS CONVENTION CENTER TO BOOK AND ATTRACT CONVENTION BUSINESS COULD ADVERSELY IMPACT OUR BUSINESS

The Atlantis is the closest hotel-casino to the Reno-Sparks Convention Center. If the Reno-Sparks Convention Center does not succeed in booking the anticipated level of conventions, our future results of operations could be adversely impacted.

BECAUSE WE ARE CURRENTLY DEPENDENT UPON A SINGLE PROPERTY IN A SINGLE MARKET FOR ALL OF OUR CASH FLOW, WE ARE SUBJECT TO GREATER RISKS THAN A GAMING COMPANY WITH MORE OPERATING PROPERTIES OR THAT OPERATES IN MORE MARKETS

We currently do not have material assets or operations other than the Atlantis. As a result, we are entirely dependent upon the Atlantis property for all of our cash flow until we develop other properties.

OUR ABILITY TO INCREASE REVENUES IS LIMITED UNTIL MATERIAL EXPANSION OF OUR OPERATIONS OCCURS

We are solely dependent on our single operation, the Atlantis. Our ability to materially increase revenues and other operating results is limited by capacity constraints at the Atlantis. While an expansion is currently underway, our ability to produce material increases in revenues is relatively limited, unless we complete a material expansion of the Atlantis, open or acquire another hotel-casino, or acquire or combine with another hotel-casino company.

OUR BUSINESS IS SUBJECT TO RESTRICTIONS AND LIMITATIONS IMPOSED BY GAMING REGULATORY AUTHORITIES THAT COULD ADVERSELY AFFECT US

The ownership and operation of casino gaming facilities are subject to extensive state and local regulation. The State of Nevada and the applicable local authorities require various licenses, registrations, permits and approvals to be held by us and our subsidiary. The Nevada Gaming Commission may, among other things, limit, condition, suspend, revoke or decline to renew a license or approval to own the stock of our Nevada subsidiary for any cause deemed reasonable by such licensing authority. If we violate gaming laws or regulations, substantial fines could be levied against us, our subsidiary and the persons involved, and we could be forced to forfeit a portion of our assets. The suspension, revocation or non-renewal of any of our licenses or the levy on us of substantial fines or forfeiture of assets would have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

To date, we have obtained all governmental licenses, findings of suitability, registrations, permits and approvals necessary for the operation of our current gaming activities. However, gaming licenses and related approvals are deemed to be privileges under Nevada law. We cannot assure you that our existing licenses, permits and approvals will be maintained or extended.

OUR INSURANCE COVERAGE MAY NOT BE ADEQUATE TO COVER ALL POSSIBLE LOSSES THAT OUR PROPERTY COULD SUFFER. IN ADDITION, OUR INSURANCE COSTS MAY INCREASE AND WE MAY NOT BE ABLE TO OBTAIN THE SAME INSURANCE COVERAGE IN THE FUTURE

Although we have general property insurance covering damage caused by a casualty loss (such as fire and natural disasters), each such policy has certain exclusions. In addition, our property insurance is in an amount that may be less than the expected replacement cost of rebuilding the complex if there was a total loss. Our level of insurance coverage may not be adequate to cover all losses in the event of a major casualty. In addition, certain casualty events, such as labor strikes, nuclear events, acts of war, loss of income due to cancellation of room reservations or conventions due to fear of terrorism, deterioration or corrosion, insect or animal damage and pollution, might not be covered at all under our policies. Therefore, certain acts could expose us to heavy, uninsured losses.

In addition, although we currently have insurance coverage for occurrences of terrorist acts and for certain losses that could result from these acts, our terrorism coverage is subject to the same risks and deficiencies as those described above for our general property coverage. The lack of sufficient insurance for these types of acts could expose us to heavy losses in the event that any damages occur, directly or indirectly, as a result of terrorist attacks or otherwise, which could have a significant negative impact on our operations.

In addition to the damage caused to our property by a casualty loss (such as fire, natural disasters, acts of war or terrorism), we may suffer business disruption as a result of these events or be subject to claims by third parties injured or harmed. While we carry business interruption insurance and general liability insurance, this insurance may not be adequate to cover all losses in such event.

We renew our insurance policies on an annual basis. The cost of coverage may become so high that we may need to reduce our policy limits or agree to certain exclusions from our coverage. Among other factors, it is possible that the situation in Iraq, homeland security concerns, other catastrophic events or any change in government legislation governing insurance coverage for acts of terrorism could materially adversely affect available insurance coverage and result in increased premiums on available coverage (which may cause us to elect to reduce our policy limits) and additional exclusions from coverage. Among other potential future adverse changes, in the future we may elect not to, or may not be able to, obtain any coverage for losses due to acts of terrorism.

Our debt instruments and other material agreements require us to maintain a certain minimum level of insurance. Failure to satisfy these requirements could result in an event of default under these debt instruments or material agreements, which would have a material adverse effect on our financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.

IF THE STATE OF NEVADA OR THE CITY OF RENO INCREASES GAMING TAXES AND FEES, OUR RESULTS OF OPERATIONS COULD BE ADVERSELY AFFECTED

State and local authorities raise a significant amount of revenue through taxes and fees on gaming activities. From time to time, legislators and officials have proposed changes in tax laws, or in the administration of such laws, affecting the gaming industry. In addition, worsening economic conditions could intensify the efforts of state and local governments to raise revenues through increases in gaming taxes. If the State of Nevada or the City of Reno were to increase gaming taxes and fees, our results of operations could be adversely affected. There are several gaming tax increase proposals currently circulating in Nevada. These proposals would take the form of voter referendum. If successfully implemented, such an increase would have a material adverse effect on our financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.

IF WE LOSE OUR KEY PERSONNEL, OUR BUSINESS COULD BE MATERIALLY ADVERSELY AFFECTED

We depend on the continued performances of John Farahi and Bob Farahi, our Chief Executive Officer and our President, respectively, and their management team. If we lose the services of the Farahi brothers, or other senior Atlantis management personnel, and cannot replace such persons in a timely manner, our business could be materially adversely affected.

ADVERSE WINTER WEATHER CONDITIONS IN THE SIERRA NEVADA MOUNTAINS AND RENO-LAKE TAHOE AREA COULD HAVE A MATERIAL ADVERSE EFFECT ON OUR RESULTS OF OPERATIONS AND FINANCIAL CONDITION

Adverse winter weather conditions, particularly snowfall, can prevent customers from traveling or make it difficult for them to drive to the Atlantis. Adverse winter weather would most significantly affect our drive-in customers from northern California and the Pacific Northwest. If the Reno area itself were to experience prolonged adverse winter weather conditions, our results of operations and financial condition could also be materially adversely affected.

CLAIMS HAVE BEEN BROUGHT AGAINST US AND OUR SUBSIDIARY IN VARIOUS LEGAL PROCEEDINGS, AND ADDITIONAL LEGAL AND TAX CLAIMS ARISE FROM TIME TO TIME

It is possible that our cash flows and results of operations could be affected by the resolution of legal and other claims. We believe that the ultimate disposition of current matters will not have a material impact on our financial condition or results of operations. Please see the further discussion under “Legal Proceedings” in Item 3 of this Form 10-K.

ENERGY PRICE INCREASES MAY ADVERSELY AFFECT OUR COST OF OPERATIONS AND OUR REVENUES

Our facility uses significant amounts of electricity, natural gas and other forms of energy. While no shortages of energy or fuel have been experienced to date, substantial increases in energy and fuel prices in the United States have negatively affected and may continue to negatively affect, our operating results. The extent of the impact is subject to the magnitude and duration of the energy and fuel price increases, but this impact could be material. In addition, energy and gasoline price increases in cities that constitute a significant source of customers for our properties could result in a decline in disposable income of potential customers and a corresponding decrease in visitation and spending at our properties, which would negatively impact revenues.

CHANGES IN REGULATIONS ON LAND USE REQUIREMENTS COULD ADVERSELY IMPACT OUR BUSINESS

A change in regulations on land use requirements with regard to development of new hotel casinos in the proximity of the Atlantis could have an adverse impact on our business, results of operations, and financial condition. A relaxation

in such regulations could make it easier for competitors to enter our immediate market. A tightening of such regulations could adversely impact our future expansion opportunities.

OUR RESULTS OF OPERATIONS MAY BE ADVERSELY AFFECTED BY HIGH-END PLAYERS' WINNINGS

Although not the major focus of our marketing efforts, we have selectively targeted high-end players since opening our newest tower in 1999. Should one or more of these high-end players win large sums in our casino, or should a material amount of credit extended to such players not be repaid, our results of operations could be adversely impacted.

WE HAVE THE ABILITY TO ISSUE ADDITIONAL EQUITY SECURITIES, WHICH WOULD LEAD TO DILUTION OF OUR ISSUED AND OUTSTANDING COMMON STOCK

The issuance of additional equity securities or securities convertible into equity securities would result in dilution of our existing stockholders' equity interests in us. Our Board of Directors has the authority to issue, without vote or action of stockholders, preferred stock in one or more series, and has the ability to fix the rights, preferences, privileges and restrictions of any such series. Any such series of preferred stock could contain dividend rights, conversion rights, voting rights, terms of redemption, redemption prices, liquidation preferences or other rights superior to the rights of holders of our common stock. If we issue convertible preferred stock, a subsequent conversion may dilute the current common stockholders' interest.

WE DO NOT INTEND TO PAY CASH DIVIDENDS. AS A RESULT, STOCKHOLDERS WILL BENEFIT FROM AN INVESTMENT IN OUR COMMON STOCK ONLY IF IT APPRECIATES IN VALUE

We have never paid a cash dividend on our common stock, and we do not plan to pay any cash dividends on our common stock in the foreseeable future. We currently intend to retain any future earnings to finance our operations and further expansion and growth of our business, including acquisitions. As a result, the success of an investment in our common stock will depend upon any future appreciation in its value. We cannot guarantee that our common stock will appreciate in value or even maintain the price at which stockholders have purchased their shares.

ITEM 1B. UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS

There were no unresolved comments from the SEC staff at the time of filing this Form 10-K.

ITEM 2. PROPERTIES

Our properties consist of:

- (a) An approximate 13-acre site in Reno, Nevada on which the Atlantis is situated, including the hotel towers, casino, restaurant facilities and surrounding parking.
- (b) An approximately 16-acre site, adjacent to the Atlantis and connected to the Atlantis by the Sky Terrace, which includes approximately 11 acres of paved parking used for customer, employee and valet parking. The remainder of the site is undeveloped. This site is compliant with all casino zoning requirements and is suitable and available for future expansion of the Atlantis facilities, parking, or complementary resort casino and/or entertainment amenities. We have not determined the ultimate use of this site.
- (c) An approximate 2.6-acre site across Virginia Street from the Atlantis which is expected to be utilized as administrative offices ("the Administrative Site") for Atlantis staff.

(d) Leased land consisting of 37,368 square-feet next door to the Atlantis serving as a driveway entrance to the Atlantis.

(e) Leased land consisting of approximately 2.3 acres adjacent to the Administrative Site utilized for storage and administrative offices.

Our credit facility is secured by liens on all of our real property.

ITEM 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

Litigation was filed against Monarch on January 27, 2006, by Kerzner International Limited ("Kerzner") owner of the Atlantis, Paradise Island, Bahamas in the United States District Court, District of Nevada. The case number assigned to the matter is 3:06-cv-00232-ECR (RAM). The complaint seeks declaratory judgment prohibiting Monarch from using the name "Atlantis" in connection with offering casino services other than at Monarch's Atlantis Casino Resort Spa located in Reno, Nevada, and particularly prohibiting Monarch from using the "Atlantis" name in connection with offering casino services in Las Vegas, Nevada; injunctive relief enforcing the same; unspecified compensatory and punitive damages; and other relief. Monarch believes Kerzner's claims to be entirely without merit and is defending vigorously against the suit. Further, Monarch has filed a counterclaim against Kerzner seeking to enforce the license agreement granting Monarch the exclusive right to use the Atlantis name in association with lodging throughout the state of Nevada; to cancel Kerzner's registration of the Atlantis mark for casino services on the basis that the mark was fraudulently obtained by Kerzner; and to obtain declaratory relief on these issues. Litigation is in the discovery phase.

We are party to other claims that arise in the normal course of business. Management believes that the outcomes of such claims will not have a material adverse impact on our financial condition, cash flows or results of operations.

ITEM 4. SUBMISSION OF MATTERS TO A VOTE OF SECURITY HOLDERS

There were no matters submitted to a vote of our security holders during the fourth quarter of 2007.

PART II

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

(a) Our common stock trades on The NASDAQ Stock Market under the symbol MCRI. The following table sets forth the high and low bid prices of our common stock, as reported by The NASDAQ Stock Market, during the periods indicated.

	2007		2006	
	High	Low	High	Low
First quarter	\$ 27.32	\$ 23.18	\$ 29.85	\$ 22.44
Second quarter	\$ 28.93	\$ 24.59	\$ 32.97	\$ 25.14
Third quarter	\$ 31.20	\$ 22.00	\$ 28.50	\$ 17.50
Fourth quarter	\$ 31.39	\$ 23.50	\$ 25.74	\$ 19.45

As of March 5, 2008, there were approximately 87 holders of record of our common stock, and approximately 2,819 beneficial stockholders.

We have never paid dividends. We presently intend to retain earnings and use free cash flow to finance our operating activities, for maintenance and for expansion capital expenditures. We do not anticipate declaring cash dividends in the foreseeable future. Our bank loan agreement also contains provisions that require the achievement of certain financial ratios before we can pay or declare dividends to our stockholders. See Item 8, "FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, Note 5."

Securities Authorized for Issuance Under Equity Compensation Plans. See Part III, Item 12 - Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management.

STOCK PERFORMANCE GRAPH

The following chart reflects the cumulative total return (change in stock price plus reinvested dividends) of a \$100 investment in the Company's Common Stock from the five-year period from January 1, 2002 through December 31, 2007, in comparison to the Standard & Poor's 500 Composite Stock Index and an industry peer group index. The comparisons are not intended to forecast or be indicative of possible future performance of the Company's Common Stock.

[Missing Graphic Reference]

Peer Group Companies: The companies included in the peer group are as follows: Ameristar Casinos, Inc; Boyd Gaming Corp.; Harrahs Entertainment, Inc.; Isle of Capri Casinos, Inc.; Las Vegas Sands Corp.; MGM Mirage; Nevada Gold & Casinos, Inc.; Penn National Gaming, Inc.; Pinnacle Entertainment, Inc.; Riviera Holdings Corp.; Station Casinos, Inc. and Wynn Resorts, Ltd.

(b) Not applicable.

(c) On September 28, 2006, the Company's Board of Directors authorized a stock repurchase plan that superseded an older plan adopted in 2003 (the "Repurchase Plan"). Under the Repurchase Plan, the Board of Directors authorized a program to repurchase up to 1,000,000 shares of the Company's common stock in the open market or in privately negotiated transactions from time to time, in compliance with Rule 10b-18 of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, subject to market conditions, applicable legal requirements and other factors. The Repurchase Plan does not obligate the Company to acquire any particular amount of common stock and the plan may be suspended at any time at the Company's discretion.

The following table summarizes the repurchases made during the three month period ended December 31, 2007. All repurchases were made in the open market.

Period	(a) Total number of shares purchased	(b) Average price paid per share	(c)	(d)
			Total number of shares purchased as part of publicly announced plans	Maximum number of shares that may yet be purchased under the plans
October 1, 2007 through October 31, 2007	-	-	-	-
November 1, 2007 through November 30, 2007	-	-	-	-
December 3, 2007 through December 31, 2007	523,396(1)	\$ 25.03	523,396	444,492

(1) All shares were purchased pursuant to the Repurchase Plan discussed above.

ITEM 6. SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA

	Years ended December 31,				
	Amounts in thousands, except per share amounts				
	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003
O P E R A T I N G RESULTS					
Casino revenues	\$ 110,259	\$ 103,333	\$ 94,501	\$ 84,132	\$ 74,956
Other revenues	75,117	72,329	67,165	65,545	59,741
Gross revenues	185,376	175,662	161,666	149,677	134,697
P r o m o t i o n a l allowances	(25,519)	(23,693)	(21,881)	(20,220)	(18,746)
Net revenues	159,856	151,969	139,785	129,457	115,951
I n c o m e f r o m operations	35,688 (F1)	33,492(F2)	33,069(F3)	26,274(F4)	17,209(F5)
Income before income tax	37,464	33,860	32,056	24,689	14,572

Edgar Filing: MONARCH CASINO & RESORT INC - Form 10-K

Net income	\$ 24,480	\$ 22,080	\$ 21,035	\$ 16,526	\$ 9,606
INCOME PER SHARE OF COMMON STOCK (F6)					
Net income per share					
Basic	\$ 1.28	\$ 1.16	\$ 1.12	\$ 0.88	\$ 0.51
Diluted	\$ 1.27	\$ 1.15	\$ 1.10	\$ 0.88	\$ 0.51
Weighted average number of common shares and potential common shares outstanding					
Basic	19,058	18,990	18,849	18,756	18,759
Diluted	19,329	19,275	19,094	18,815	18,825
OTHER DATA					
Depreciation and amortization	\$ 8,138	\$ 8,559	\$ 8,379	\$ 9,628	\$ 10,797
Other income (expense)	\$ 1,776	\$ 368	\$ (1,013)	\$ (1,584)	\$ (2,638)
Capital expenditures (F7)	\$ 17,287	\$ 5,795	\$ 6,113	\$ 9,710	\$ 8,406
BALANCE SHEET DATA					
Total assets	\$154,286	\$138,381	\$117,670	\$118,339	\$115,877
Current maturities of long-term debt	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,060
Long-term debt, less current maturities	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,100	\$ 32,400	\$ 41,125
Stockholders' equity (F8)	\$129,419	\$115,646	\$ 87,559	\$ 65,763	\$ 48,723

Footnotes to Selected Financial Data:

(F1) 2007 includes a \$7 thousand gain on disposal of fixed assets

(F2) 2006 includes a \$55 thousand loss on disposal of fixed assets

(F3) 2005 includes a \$42 thousand gain on disposal of fixed assets.

(F4) 2004 includes a \$173 thousand loss on disposal of fixed assets.

(F5) 2003 includes a \$133 thousand gain on disposal of fixed assets.

(F6) Per share data and shares outstanding prior to 2005 are adjusted to reflect a 2-for-1 stock split effective March 31, 2005.

(F7) Includes amounts financed with debt or capitalized lease obligations.

(F8) We paid no dividends during the five year period ended December 31, 2007.

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

Monarch Casino & Resort, Inc., through its wholly-owned subsidiary, Golden Road Motor Inn, Inc. ("Golden Road"), owns and operates the tropically-themed Atlantis Casino Resort Spa, a hotel/casino facility in Reno, Nevada (the "Atlantis"). Monarch was incorporated in 1993 under Nevada law for the purpose of acquiring all of the stock of Golden Road. The principal asset of Monarch is the stock of Golden Road, which holds all of the assets of the Atlantis.

Our sole operating asset, the Atlantis, is a hotel/casino resort located in Reno, Nevada. Our business strategy is to maximize the Atlantis' revenues, operating income and cash flow primarily through our casino, our food and beverage operations and our hotel operations. We capitalize on the Atlantis' location for tour and travel visitors, conventioners and Locals by offering exceptional service, value and an appealing theme to our guests. Our hands-on management style focuses on customer service and cost efficiencies.

Unless otherwise indicated, "Monarch," "Company," "we," "our" and "us" refer to Monarch Casino & Resort, Inc. and its Golden Road subsidiary.

OPERATING RESULTS SUMMARY

During 2007, we exceeded all previously reported Company annual casino revenues, food and beverage revenues, hotel revenues, net revenues, net income and earnings per share.

Amounts in millions, except per share amounts

	2007	2006	2005	Percentage Increase / (Decrease)	
				07 vs 06	06 vs 05
Casino revenues	\$110.3	\$103.3	\$ 94.5	6.8%	9.3%
Food and beverage revenues	42.4	41.0	38.6	3.4%	6.2%
Hotel revenues	27.9	26.4	23.9	5.7%	10.5%
Other revenues	4.9	4.9	4.7	-	4.3%
Net revenues	159.9	152.0	139.8	5.2%	8.7%
Sales, general and admin exp	50.0	46.3	38.1	8.0%	21.5%
Income from operations	35.7	33.5	33.1	6.6%	1.2%
Net income	24.5	22.1	21.0	10.9%	5.2%
Earnings per share - diluted	1.27	1.15	1.10	10.4%	4.5%
Operating margin	22.3%	22.0%	23.7%	0.3 pts	(1.7) pts

We attribute our improved results to our experienced management team, the superb location of the Atlantis in the more affluent and growing south part of Reno, the quality of our product that drives repeat business, and our ability to attract leisure travelers.

In 2007, our income from operations increased 6.6% over 2006, while our net income and earnings per diluted share increased 10.9% and 10.4%, respectively. Significant factors that affected our 2007 results are listed below. These items are discussed in greater detail elsewhere in our discussion of operating results and in the Liquidity and Capital Resources section.

- Net revenues in 2007 increased 5.2% over 2006 due to increases in our casino, food and beverage and hotel revenue segments, which increased 6.8%, 3.4% and 5.7%, respectively, over 2006.
 - Sales, general and administrative expenses increased 8.0% over 2006 primarily driven by:
 - o higher legal expense principally related to the ongoing Kerzner litigation (see ITEM 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS above)
 - o higher marketing and promotional expense primarily related to our efforts to mitigate the negative effects of disruption our guests experienced related to construction of our expansion project (see additional discussion below under Capital Spending and Development), aggressive marketing programs by our nearest competitor to promote the grand opening of its major expansion project and negative macroeconomic trends experienced in the Reno, our feeder markets and the nation as a whole
 - o higher payroll and benefits expense primarily related to increased headcount related to our expansion project (see additional discussion below under Capital Spending and Development), higher health care benefits expense and an increase in the minimum wage
 - o all partially offset by the impact of a \$1.2 million non-cash charge in the second quarter of 2006, which did not recur in 2007, related to early vesting of stock options for the Company's former Co-Chairman and Chief Financial Officer who resigned in 2006.
 - Departmental expenses related to casino, food and beverage and other revenue segments increased in 2007 over 2006 by 5.3%, 3.8% and 2.4%, respectively, primarily driven by an overall increase in commodity and supply costs combined with an increase in the minimum wage. Expenses for the hotel segment remained flat in 2007 as compared to 2006. Margins for the casino and hotel segments improved, while margins for food and beverage and other decreased in 2007 as compared to 2006.

CAPITAL SPENDING AND DEVELOPMENT

We seek to continuously upgrade and maintain the Atlantis facility in order to present a fresh, high quality product to our guests.

Capital expenditures at the Atlantis (including non-cash capital expenditures) totaled approximately \$17.3 million, \$5.8 million and \$6.1 million in 2007, 2006 and 2005, respectively. During 2007 capital expenditures at the Atlantis consisted of construction costs associated with the current expansion phase of the Atlantis that commenced in June 2007, and the acquisition of gaming equipment to upgrade and replace existing gaming equipment. During 2006, capital expenditures primarily consisted of acquisition of gaming and computer equipment, the installation of a casino high-definition video display system, renovation of our Java Coast Gourmet Coffee and pastry bar, initial design and planning expenditures associated with our Atlantis expansion and ongoing property public area renovations and upgrades. During 2005, capital expenditures consisted primarily of the replacement of and upgrade to our ventilation and cooling system, acquisition of gaming and computer systems equipment, and continued renovations to the facility.

Future cash needed to finance ongoing capital expenditures is expected to be available from cash on-hand and operating cash flow, the Credit Facility (see Item 8, "FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, Note 5.") and, if necessary, additional borrowings.

In June 2007, we announced the groundbreaking on an expansion project with completion expected in the second quarter of 2008. New space will be added to the first floor casino level, the second and third floors and the basement level totaling approximately 116,000 square feet. The existing casino floor will be expanded by over 10,000 square feet, or approximately 20%. The first floor casino plans include a redesigned, updated and expanded race and sports book of approximately 4,000 square feet and an enlarged poker room. The expansion will also include a New York-style deli restaurant. The second floor expansion will create additional ballroom and convention space of approximately 27,000 square feet, doubling the existing facilities. The spa and fitness center will be remodeled and expanded to create an ultra-modern spa and fitness center facility. We also plan to add a pedestrian skywalk over Peckham Lane that will connect the Reno-Sparks Convention Center directly to the Atlantis. Construction of the skywalk is expected to be completed in the fourth quarter of 2008. The expansion is estimated to cost approximately \$50 million, and the Atlantis Convention Center Skybridge project is estimated to cost an additional \$12.5 million. Through December 31, 2007, the Company has paid approximately \$17.2 million of the estimated expansion and skybridge cost.

CRITICAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND ESTIMATES

We prepare our consolidated financial statements in conformity with principles generally accepted in the United States. Certain of our policies, including the estimated lives assigned to our assets, the determination of bad debt reserves, self insurance reserves, concentration of credit risk, and the calculation of income tax liabilities, require that we apply significant judgment in defining the appropriate assumptions for calculating financial estimates. By their nature, these judgments are subject to an inherent degree of uncertainty. Our judgments are based on historical experience, terms of existing contracts, observations of trends in the industry, information provided by customers and information available from other outside sources, as appropriate. There can be no assurance that actual results will not differ from our estimates. To provide an understanding of the methodologies applied, our significant accounting policies are discussed where appropriate in this discussion and analysis and in the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Monarch and Golden Road. Intercompany balances and transactions are eliminated.

Self-insurance Reserves

The Company reviews self-insurance reserves at least quarterly. The reserve is determined by reviewing the actual expenditures for the previous twelve-month period and reports prepared by the third party plan administrator for any significant unpaid claims. The reserve is an amount estimated to pay both reported and unreported claims as of the balance sheet date, which management believes are adequate.

Casino Revenues

Casino revenues represent the net win from gaming activity, which is the difference between wins and losses. Additionally, net win is reduced by a provision for anticipated payouts on slot participation fees, progressive jackpots and any pre-arranged marker discounts.

Promotional Allowances

The retail value of hotel, food and beverage services provided to customers without charge is included in gross revenue and deducted as promotional allowances.

Income Taxes

Income taxes are recorded in accordance with the liability method specified by Statement of Financial Accounting Standards ("SFAS") No. 109 "Accounting for Income Taxes." Under the asset and liability approach for financial accounting and reporting for income taxes, the following basic principles are applied in accounting for income taxes at the date of the financial statements: (a) a current liability or asset is recognized for the estimated taxes payable or refundable on taxes for the current year; (b) a deferred income tax liability or asset is recognized for the estimated future tax effects attributable to temporary differences and carryforwards; (c) the measurement of current and deferred tax liabilities and assets is based on the provisions of the enacted tax law; the effects of future changes in tax laws or rates are not anticipated; and (d) the measurement of deferred income taxes is reduced, if necessary, by the amount of any tax benefits that, based upon available evidence, are not expected to be realized.

The Company also applies the requirements of Financial Interpretation No. 48 "Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes" ("FIN 48") which prescribes minimum recognition thresholds a tax position is required to meet before being recognized in the financial statements. FIN 48 also provides guidance on derecognition, measurement, classification, interest and penalties, accounting in interim periods, disclosure and transition. Implementation has resulted in no material impact on the Company's financial position or results of operations.

RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

2007 Compared with 2006

For the year ended December 31, 2007, we earned net income of \$24.5 million, or \$1.27 per diluted share, on net revenues of \$159.9 million, compared to net income of \$22.1 million, or \$1.15 per diluted share, on net revenues of \$152.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2006. Net revenue for 2007 is the highest in Company history. Income from operations totaled \$35.7 million for 2007, a 6.6% increase when compared to \$33.5 million for 2006. Net income for the year 2007 represents a record high for our Company. We believe that for much of 2007, the Atlantis continued to benefit from the increasing popularity of the Atlantis with visitors to the Reno area, from our commitment to ongoing property upgrades and renovations and from the rapid growth occurring in the residential and commercial areas south of the Atlantis in Reno.

Casino revenues totaled \$110.3 million in 2007, up 6.8% from \$103.3 million in 2006, driven by increases in slot, table games, poker and Keno win. Revenue from slot and video poker machines ("slot machines") increased approximately 7.3% in 2007 compared to 2006. We believe that increased slot machine play was due to continued effective marketing and continuous upgrade of facilities and equipment. Table game win increased approximately 2.4% in 2007 compared to 2006. Keno and poker room revenues combined increased approximately 11.0% in 2007 over 2006 due to continued effective marketing and the quality of the product and service offering at the Atlantis. Casino operating expenses were 32.6% of casino revenues in 2007, a slight improvement from 33.0% in 2006.

Food and beverage revenues increased 3.4% to \$42.4 million in 2007 from \$41.0 million in 2006, primarily due to a 3.5% increase in average revenue per cover. Food and beverage operating expenses as a percentage of food and beverage revenue increased slightly to 47.9% in 2007 from to 47.6% in 2006.

Hotel revenues totaled \$27.9 million in 2007, an increase of 5.7% from \$26.4 million in 2006. The increase reflects an increase in both the average daily room rate ("ADR") and occupancy rate during the twelve month period of 2007 compared to the same period in 2006. The Atlantis' ADR was \$74.04 in 2007, compared to \$69.87 in 2006. The average occupancy rate at the Atlantis was 93.8% in 2007 compared to 93.3% in 2006. Hotel operating expenses

decreased slightly to 30.0% of hotel revenues in 2007, compared to 31.7% in 2006. This decrease in operating expenses as a percentage of hotel revenues resulted primarily from the revenue impact of the increased ADR partially offset by increased direct hotel operating expenses.

Promotional allowances increased to \$25.5 million in 2007 compared to \$23.7 million in 2006. As a percentage of gross revenue, the amount in 2007 increased slightly to 13.8% as compared to 13.5% for 2006. The dollar increase is attributable to continued efforts to generate additional revenues and reflects efforts to ensure that promotional costs are directed toward gaming guests.

Other revenues in 2007 remained flat at \$4.9 million when compared to 2006. Other operating expenses were 30.5% of other revenues in 2007, an increase from 29.7% in 2006.

Selling, general and administrative ("SG&A") expenses totaled \$50.0 million, or 31.3% of net revenues, in 2007 compared to \$46.3 million, or 30.5% of net revenues, in 2006 for a year over year increase of \$3.7 million or 8.0%. The primary drivers of this increase are: i) higher legal expense related to the ongoing Kerzner litigation (see ITEM 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS above); ii) higher marketing and promotional expense primarily related to our efforts to mitigate the negative effects of disruption our guests experienced related to construction of our expansion project (see additional discussion below under Capital Spending and Development), aggressive marketing programs by our nearest competitor to promote the grand opening of its major expansion project and negative macroeconomic trends experienced in the Reno, our feeder markets and the nation as a whole and iii) higher payroll and benefits expense primarily related to increased headcount related to our expansion project (see additional discussion below under Capital Spending and Development), higher health care benefits expense and an increase in the minimum wage all partially offset by the impact of a \$1.2 million non-cash charge in the second quarter of 2006, which did not recur in 2007, related to early vesting of stock options for the Company's former Co-Chairman and Chief Financial Officer who resigned in 2006.

Depreciation and amortization expense was \$8.1 million in 2007, a decrease of 5.8% compared to \$8.6 million in 2006.

Interest expense, reflecting amortization of various one-time fees and other loan costs required to open our credit facility (see THE CREDIT FACILITY below), totaled \$152,000 in 2007 as compared to \$98,000 in 2006. Interest income derived from investment of surplus cash in short-term, interest bearing instruments was \$1.9 million in 2007 compared to \$466,000 in 2006. This increase was driven primarily by higher average surplus cash invested in 2007 as compared to 2006.

2006 Compared with 2005

For the year ended December 31, 2006, we earned net income of \$22.1 million, or \$1.15 per diluted share, on net revenues of \$152.0 million, compared to net income of \$21.0 million, or \$1.10 per diluted share, on net revenues of \$139.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2005. Net revenue for 2006 represented the highest in Company history before being topped by 2007 results. Income from operations totaled \$33.5 million for 2006, a 1.2% increase when compared to \$33.1 million for 2005. Net income for the year 2006 also represented a record high for our Company before reporting the 2007 results. We believe the Atlantis continued to benefit in 2006 from increasing popularity of the Atlantis with visitors to the Reno area, from our commitment to ongoing property upgrades and renovations and from the rapid growth occurring in the residential and commercial areas south of the Atlantis in Reno.

Casino revenues totaled \$103.3 million in 2006, up 9.3% from \$94.5 million in 2005, driven by increases in slot, table games, poker and Keno win. Revenue from slot and video poker machines ("slot machines") increased approximately 9.6% in 2006 compared to 2005. We believe that increased slot machine play was due to continued effective marketing and continuous upgrade of facilities and equipment. Table game win increased approximately 6.2% in 2006 compared to 2005 due to a higher win percentage partially offset by a decrease in drop. Keno and poker room

Edgar Filing: MONARCH CASINO & RESORT INC - Form 10-K

revenues combined increased approximately 21.7% in 2006 over 2005. Keno write increased approximately 15.1% in 2006 compared to 2005 while poker revenue increased approximately 32.6% compared to 2005 due to continued effective marketing. Casino operating expenses were 33.0% of casino revenues in 2006, a slight improvement from 33.9% in 2005.

Food and beverage revenues increased 6.2% to \$41.0 million in 2006 from \$38.6 million in 2005, primarily due to a 5.6% increase in average revenue per cover. Food and beverage operating expenses decreased to 47.6% of food and beverage revenues in 2006 compared to 48.7% in 2005, due to increased revenue per cover partially offset by a slight increase in cost of sales per cover and higher operating expenses.

Hotel revenues totaled \$26.4 million in 2006, an increase of 10.5% from \$23.9 million in 2005. The increase reflects an increase in both the average daily room rate ("ADR") and occupancy rate during the twelve month period of 2006 compared to the same period in 2005. The Atlantis' ADR was \$69.87 in 2006, compared to \$63.24 in 2005. The average occupancy rate at the Atlantis was 93.3% in 2006 compared to 93.0% in 2005. Hotel operating expenses decreased slightly to 31.7% of hotel revenues in 2006, compared to 32.2% in 2005. This decrease in operating expenses as a percentage of hotel revenues resulted primarily from the revenue impact of the increased ADR partially offset by increased direct hotel operating expenses.

Promotional allowances increased to \$23.7 million in 2006 compared to \$21.9 million in 2005. As a percentage of gross revenue, both 2006 and 2005 represent 13.5%. The dollar increase is attributable to continued efforts to generate additional revenues and reflects efforts to ensure that promotional costs are directed toward gaming guests.

Other revenues increased 4.3% in 2006 to \$4.9 million from \$4.7 million in 2005. The overall increase was primarily driven by a 10.5% increase in gift and sundries retail shops revenue. Other operating expenses were 29.7% of other revenues in 2006, an increase from 28.6% in 2005.

Selling, general and administrative ("SG&A") expenses totaled \$46.3 million, or 30.5% of net revenues, in 2006 compared to \$38.1 million, or 27.2% of net revenues, in 2005 for a year over year increase of \$8.2 million or 21.5%. Effective January 1, 2006, we began recognizing expense related to the issuance of stock options in accordance with SFAS 123R. For the year, we recorded \$3.3 million of stock option expense (pre-tax), \$3.1 million of which was reported as SG&A expense with the balance reported as operating expense in the appropriate revenue center expense line consistent with the assignment of the respective employee receiving the stock options benefit. No similar expense is reflected in the financial statements for periods prior to 2006. Of the \$3.3 million of stock option expense recorded in 2006, \$1.2 million related to a one-time, non-cash charge related to early vesting of stock options for the Company's former Co-Chairman and Chief Financial Officer who resigned in the second quarter of 2006. In addition to stock option expense, significant drivers of this increase in SG&A were increased marketing and promotional expense, higher energy and utilities expense, higher professional fees and higher bad debt expense.

Depreciation and amortization expense was \$8.6 million in 2006, an increase of 2.4% compared to \$8.4 million in 2005.

Interest expense for 2006 totaled \$98,000 compared to \$1,013,000 in 2005, a decrease of \$915,000, as a result of the repayment of all of our bank related debt in the first quarter of 2006. In that same quarter, we began investing surplus cash in short-term, interest bearing instruments which drove an increase in interest income in 2006 compared to 2005 of \$466,000.

LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

We have historically funded our daily hotel and casino activities with net cash provided by operating activities. For the years 2007, 2006 and 2005, net cash provided by operating activities totaled \$30.1 million, \$35.2 million and

Edgar Filing: MONARCH CASINO & RESORT INC - Form 10-K

\$31.0 million, respectively. During each of the three years, net cash provided by operating activities was sufficient to fund our day-to-day operating expenses.

Net cash used in investing activities, which consisted of acquisitions of property and equipment, totaled \$15.3 million, \$5.8 million and \$6.1 million in 2007, 2006 and 2005, respectively. Total capital expenditures, including amounts financed, were \$17.3 million, \$5.8 million and \$6.1 million in 2007, 2006 and 2005, respectively.

Net cash used in financing activities totaled \$13.0 million in 2007, \$5.4 million in 2006 and \$23.9 million in 2005. Cash used in financing activities was principally related to our treasury stock purchases in 2007, and to the paydown of our outstanding debt in 2006 and 2005.

COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

Our contractual cash obligations as of December 31, 2007 and the next five years and thereafter are as follows:

Contractual Cash Obligations	Total	Payments Due by Period			
		less than 1 year	1 to 3 years	4 to 5 years	more than 5 years
Operating Leases(1)	\$ 4,834,000	\$ 613,000	\$ 983,000	\$ 740,000	\$ 2,498,000
Purchase Obligations(2)	35,645,000	35,645,000	-	-	-
Total Contractual Cash Obligations	\$ 40,479,000	\$ 36,258,000	\$ 983,000	\$ 740,000	\$ 2,498,000

(1) Operating leases include \$370,000 per year in lease and common expense payments to the shopping center adjacent to the Atlantis (see Capital Spending and Development) and \$243,000 per year in lease payments to Triple J (see Note 10 to the Consolidated Financial Statements).

(2) Our open purchase order commitments total approximately \$35.6 million. Of the total purchase order commitments, approximately \$2.1 million are cancelable by the Company upon providing a 30-day notice.

On September 28, 2006, the Board of Directors authorized a stock repurchase plan that superseded an older plan adopted in 2003 (the "Repurchase Plan"). Under the Repurchase Plan, the Board of Directors authorized a program to repurchase up to 1,000,000 shares of the company's common stock in the open market or in privately negotiated transactions from time to time, in compliance with Rule 10b-18 of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, subject to market conditions, applicable legal requirements and other factors. The Repurchase Plan does not obligate us to acquire any particular amount of common stock and the plan may be suspended at any time at our discretion. On March 11, 2008, the Board of Directors authorized a new repurchase plan to repurchase up to 1,000,000 shares of our common stock in the open market or in privately negotiated transactions from time to time, in compliance with Rule 10b-18 of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, subject to market conditions, applicable legal requirements and other factors. The Company had purchased the full 1,000,000 shares under the Repurchase Plan.

In June 2007, we announced the groundbreaking on an expansion project with completion expected in the second quarter of 2008. New space will be added to the first floor casino level, the second and third floors and the basement level totaling approximately 116,000 square feet. The existing casino floor will be expanded by over 10,000 square feet, or approximately 20%. The first floor casino plans include a redesigned, updated and expanded race and sports book of approximately 4,000 square feet and an enlarged poker room. The expansion will also include a New York-style deli restaurant. The second floor expansion will create additional ballroom and convention space of approximately 27,000 square feet, doubling the existing facilities. The spa and fitness center will be remodeled and expanded to create an ultra-modern spa and fitness center facility. We also plan to add a pedestrian skywalk over Peckham Lane that will connect the Reno-Sparks Convention Center directly to the Atlantis. Construction of the

skywalk is expected to be completed in the fourth quarter of 2008. The expansion is estimated to cost approximately \$50 million, and the Atlantis Convention Center Skybridge project is estimated to cost an additional \$12.5 million. Through December 31, 2007, the Company has paid approximately \$17.2 million of the estimated expansion and skybridge cost.

We believe that our existing cash balances, cash flow from operations, equipment financing, and borrowings available under the New Credit Facility will provide us with sufficient resources to fund our operations, meet our debt obligations and fulfill our capital expenditure requirements; however, our operations are subject to financial, economic, competitive, regulatory, and other factors, many of which are beyond our control. If we are unable to generate sufficient cash flow, we could be required to adopt one or more alternatives, such as reducing, delaying or eliminating planned capital expenditures, selling assets, restructuring debt or obtaining additional equity capital.

THE CREDIT FACILITY

Until February 20, 2004, we had a reducing revolving term loan credit facility with a consortium of banks that was to expire on June 30, 2004, (the "Original Credit Facility"). On February 20, 2004, the Original Credit Facility was refinanced (the "New Credit Facility") for \$50 million, which included the \$46 million payoff of the unpaid balance of the Original Credit Facility. At December 31, 2007 and 2006, we had no borrowings under the New Credit Facility; however, our leverage ratio was such that the pricing for borrowings would have been the Base Rate plus 0.00 percent or LIBOR plus 1.00 percent.

Effective February 2007, in consideration of our cash balance, cash expected to be generated from operations and to avoid agency and commitment fees, we elected to permanently reduce the available borrowings to \$5 million. We may permanently reduce the maximum principal available under the New Credit Facility at any time so long as the amount of such reduction is at least \$500,000 and a multiple of \$50,000. In the future we may utilize borrowings from the New Credit Facility for working capital needs, general corporate purposes and for ongoing capital expenditure requirements.

Borrowings under the New Credit Facility would be secured by liens on substantially all of the real and personal property of the Atlantis and is guaranteed by Monarch.

The New Credit Facility contains covenants customary and typical for a facility of this nature, including, but not limited to, covenants requiring the preservation and maintenance of assets and covenants restricting our ability to merge, transfer ownership of Monarch, incur additional indebtedness, encumber assets and make certain investments. The New Credit Facility also contains covenants requiring that we maintain certain financial ratios and contains provisions that restrict cash transfers between Monarch and our affiliates. The New Credit Facility also contains provisions requiring the achievement of certain financial ratios before we can repurchase our common stock. We do not consider the covenants to restrict operations.

The maturity date of any borrowings under the New Credit Facility is February 23, 2009. We may prepay borrowings under the New Credit Facility without penalty (subject to certain charges applicable to the prepayment of LIBOR borrowings prior to the end of the applicable interest period). Amounts prepaid under the New Credit Facility may be reborrowed so long as the total borrowings outstanding do not exceed the maximum principal available.

We paid various one-time fees and other loan costs upon the closing of the refinancing of the New Credit Facility that will be amortized over the term of the New Credit Facility using the straight-line method.

SHORT-TERM DEBT

At December 31, 2007, we had no slot purchase contracts or other short-term debt outstanding.

STATEMENT ON FORWARD LOOKING INFORMATION

Certain information included herein contains statements that may be considered forward-looking, such as statements relating to projections of future results of operations or financial condition, expectations for our casino, and expectations of the continued availability of capital resources. Any forward-looking statement made by us necessarily is based upon a number of estimates and assumptions that, while considered reasonable by us, is inherently subject to significant business, economic and competitive uncertainties and contingencies, many of which are beyond our control, and are subject to change. Actual results of our operations may vary materially from any forward-looking statement made by us or on our behalf. Forward-looking statements should not be regarded as representation by us or any other person that the forward-looking statements will be achieved. Undue reliance should not be placed on any forward-looking statements. Some of the contingencies and uncertainties to which any forward-looking statement contained herein are subject to include, but are not limited to, those set forth above in the heading "ITEM 1A. Risk Factors."

RECENTLY ISSUED ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

In June 2006, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued Interpretation No. 48, Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes, an interpretation of FAS 109, Accounting for Income Taxes (FIN 48), to create a single model to address accounting for uncertainty in tax positions. FIN 48 clarifies the accounting for income taxes, by prescribing a minimum recognition threshold a tax position is required to meet before being recognized in the financial statements. FIN 48 also provides guidance on derecognition, measurement, classification, interest and penalties, accounting in interim periods, disclosure and transition. FIN 48 is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2006. The Company adopted FIN 48 as of January 1, 2007, as required. FIN 48 requires that the cumulative effect of adoption be recorded in retained earnings. Implementation resulted in no cumulative effect for the Company nor any material impact on the Company's financial position or results of operations.

In September 2006, the FASB issued SFAS 157, Fair Value Measurements. SFAS 157 defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value in generally accepted accounting principles and expands disclosures about fair value measurements. This Statement applies under other accounting pronouncements that require or permit fair value measurements, accordingly, this Statement does not require any new fair value measurements. However, for some entities, the application of this Statement will change current practice. This Statement is effective for financial statements issued for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007, and interim periods within those fiscal years. The Company is currently evaluating the provisions of SFAS 157 to determine its impact, if any, on the Company's financial position and results of operations.

In February 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 159, "The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities Including an Amendment of FASB Statement No. 115." SFAS No. 159 permits entities to choose to measure many financial instruments and certain other items at fair value, with unrealized gains and losses related to these financial instruments reported in earnings at each subsequent reporting date. SFAS No. 159 is effective for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007. The Company is currently evaluating the impact that the adoption of SFAS No. 159 will have on its consolidated financial statements.

In December 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 141 (revised 2007), "Business Combinations." SFAS No. 141 (revised) establishes principles and requirements for how an acquirer recognizes and measures in its financial statements the identifiable assets acquired, the liabilities assumed, noncontrolling interest in the acquiree and the

goodwill acquired. The revision is intended to simplify existing guidance and converge rulemaking under U.S. GAAP with international accounting rules. This statement applies prospectively to business combinations where the acquisition date is on or after the beginning of the first annual reporting period beginning on or after December 15, 2008. The adoption of SFAS No. 141 (revised) is not expected to have a material impact on the Company's financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

In December 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 160, "Noncontrolling Interest in Consolidated Financial Statements, an amendment of ARB No. 51." This statement establishes accounting and reporting standards for ownership interest in subsidiaries held by parties other than the parent and for the deconsolidation of a subsidiary. It also clarifies that a noncontrolling interest in a subsidiary is an ownership interest in the consolidated entity that should be reported as equity in the consolidated financial statements. SFAS No. 160 changes the way the consolidated income statement is presented by requiring consolidated net income to be reported at amounts that include the amount attributable to both the parent and the noncontrolling interests. The statement also establishes reporting requirements that provide sufficient disclosure that clearly identify and distinguish between the interest of the parent and those of the noncontrolling owners. This statement is effective for fiscal years beginning on or after December 15, 2008. The adoption of SFAS No. 160 is not expected to have a material impact on the Company's financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

ITEM 7A. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

Market risk is the risk of loss arising from adverse changes in market risks and prices, such as interest rates, foreign currency exchange rates and commodity prices. We do not have any cash or cash equivalents as of December 31, 2007 that are subject to market risk. As of December 31, 2007 and 2006, we had no outstanding debt subject to market risk.

ITEM 8. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

The Board of Directors and Stockholders of Monarch Casino & Resort, Inc.:

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Monarch Casino & Resort, Inc. and subsidiaries (the "Company") as of December 31, 2007 and 2006, and the related consolidated statements of income, stockholders' equity, and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2007. Our audits also included the financial statements schedule listed in the index at Item 15(a). These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements and schedule based on our audits.

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

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of Monarch Casino & Resort, Inc. and subsidiaries at December 31, 2007 and 2006, and the consolidated results of their operations and their cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2007, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

As discussed in Note 1 to the consolidated financial statements, the Company changed its method of accounting for Share-Based Payments in accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123 (revised 2004) on January 1, 2006.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2007, based on criteria established in Internal Control-Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission and our report dated March 12, 2008 expressed an unqualified opinion thereon.

/s/Ernst & Young LLP

Las Vegas, Nevada
March 12, 2008

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

The Board of Directors and Stockholders' of Monarch Casino and Resort, Inc.:

We have audited Monarch Casino and Resort, Inc. and subsidiaries (the "Company") internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2007, based on criteria established in Internal Control—Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (the COSO criteria). The Company's management is responsible for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting, and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting included in the accompanying Management's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the company's internal control over financial reporting based on our audit.

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

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

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

In our opinion, the Company maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2007, based on the COSO criteria.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the consolidated balance sheets as of December 31, 2007 and 2006, and the related consolidated statements of income, stockholders' equity and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2007 of Monarch Casino and Resort, Inc. and Subsidiaries and our report dated March 12, 2008 expressed an unqualified opinion thereon.

/s/Ernst & Young LLP

Las Vegas, Nevada

March 12, 2008

MONARCH CASINO & RESORT, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME

	Years ended December 31,		
	2007	2006	2005
Revenues			
Casino	\$ 110,259,104	\$ 103,332,559	\$ 94,501,028
Food and beverage	42,364,225	41,037,321	38,564,365
Hotel	27,885,858	26,412,755	23,909,915
Other	4,866,536	4,878,840	4,690,105
Gross revenues	185,375,723	175,661,475	161,665,413
Less promotional allowances	(25,519,352)	(23,692,521)	(21,880,793)
Net revenues	159,856,371	151,968,954	139,784,620
Operating expenses			
Casino	35,927,672	34,134,518	31,990,758
Food and beverage	20,283,267	19,533,532	18,795,268
Hotel	8,357,541	8,383,382	7,696,576
Other	1,485,550	1,450,100	1,340,556
Selling, general and administrative	49,966,276	46,309,938	38,073,313
Gaming development costs	10,477	106,477	439,984
Depreciation and amortization	8,137,886	8,559,374	8,379,033
Total operating expenses	124,168,669	118,477,321	106,715,488
Income from operations	35,687,702	33,491,633	33,069,132
Other income (expense)			
Interest income	1,928,450	466,050	257
Interest expense	(152,274)	(97,722)	(1,013,377)
Total other income (expense)	1,776,176	368,328	(1,013,120)
Income before income taxes	37,463,878	33,859,961	32,056,012
Provision for income taxes	12,983,660	11,779,590	11,020,552
Net income	\$ 24,480,218	\$ 22,080,371	\$ 21,035,460
Earnings per share of common stock			
Net income			
Basic	\$ 1.28	\$ 1.16	\$ 1.12
Diluted	\$ 1.27	\$ 1.15	\$ 1.10
Weighted average number of common shares and potential common shares outstanding:			
Basic	19,057,583	18,990,331	18,848,532
Diluted	19,329,131	19,274,847	19,093,777

The accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements are an integral part of these statements.

MONARCH CASINO & RESORT, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

	December 31,	
	2007	2006
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Cash	\$ 38,835,820	\$ 36,985,187
Receivables, net	4,134,099	3,268,970
Federal income tax refund receivable	998,123	-
Inventories	1,496,046	1,471,667
Prepaid expenses	3,144,374	2,833,126
Deferred income taxes	1,084,284	965,025
Total current assets	49,692,746	45,523,975
Property and equipment		
Land	10,339,530	10,339,530
Land improvements	3,166,107	3,166,107
Buildings	78,955,538	78,955,538
Building improvements	10,435,062	10,435,062
Furniture and equipment	72,511,165	72,708,061
Leasehold improvements	1,346,965	1,346,965
	176,754,367	176,951,263
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization	(92,215,149)	(84,325,578)
	84,539,218	92,625,685
Construction in progress	17,236,062	-
Net property and equipment	101,775,280	92,625,685
Other assets, net	2,817,842	231,247
Total assets	\$ 154,285,868	\$ 138,380,907

The accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements are an integral part of these statements.

MONARCH CASINO & RESORT, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY	December 31,	
	2007	2006
Current liabilities	10,840,318	8,590,669
Accounts payable	1,971,022	-
Construction accounts payable	9,230,157	9,878,851
Accrued expenses	-	16,457
Federal income taxes payable		
Total current liabilities	22,041,497	18,485,977
Deferred income taxes	2,825,433	4,248,614
Total liabilities	24,866,930	22,734,591
Stockholders' equity		
Preferred stock, \$.01 par value, 10,000,000 shares authorized; none issued	-	-
Common stock, \$.01 par value, 30,000,000 shares authorized; 19,096,300 shares issued; 18,566,540 outstanding at 12/31/07 and 19,065,968 outstanding at 12/31/06	190,963	190,726
Additional paid-in capital	25,741,972	23,205,045
Treasury stock, 529,760 shares at 12/31/07 and 6,582 shares at 12/31/06, at cost	(13,268,905)	(24,145)
Retained earnings	116,754,908	92,274,690
Total stockholders' equity	129,418,938	115,646,316
Total liabilities and stockholder's equity	\$ 154,285,868	\$ 138,380,907

The accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements are an integral part of these statements.

MONARCH CASINO & RESORT, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY

	Common Stock		Additional Paid-in Capital	Retained Earnings	Treasury Stock	Total
	Shares Outstanding	Amount				
Balance, January 1, 2005	18,812,448	\$ 190,726	\$ 17,367,909	\$ 49,158,859	\$ (954,152)	\$ 65,763,342
Exercise of stock options, including						
related tax benefit	66,862	-	514,918	-	245,275	760,193
Net income	-	-	-	21,035,460	-	21,035,460
Balance, December 31, 2005	18,879,310	190,726	17,882,827	70,194,319	(708,877)	87,558,995
Exercise of stock options, including						
related tax benefit	186,658	-	1,528,757	-	684,732	2,213,489
Share based compensation expense	-	-	3,793,461	-	-	3,793,461
Net income	-	-	-	22,080,371	-	22,080,371
Balance, December 31, 2006	19,065,968	190,726	23,205,045	92,274,690	(24,145)	115,646,316
Exercise of stock options, including						
related tax benefit	56,080	237	(26,887)	-	629,286	602,636
Purchase of treasury stock	(555,508)	-	-	-	(13,874,046)	(13,874,046)
Share based compensation expense	-	-	2,563,814	-	-	2,563,814
Net income	-	-	-	24,480,218	-	24,480,218
Balance, December 31, 2007	18,566,540	\$ 190,963	\$ 25,741,972	\$ 116,754,908	\$ (13,268,905)	\$ 129,418,938

The accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements are an integral part of these statements.

MONARCH CASINO & RESORT, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

	Years ended December 31,		
	2007	2006	2005
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net income	\$ 24,480,218	\$ 22,080,371	\$ 21,035,460
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:			
Depreciation and amortization	8,137,886	8,559,374	8,379,033
Amortization of deferred loan costs	148,838	38,277	137,096
Share based compensation	2,271,057	3,273,708	-
Provision for bad debts	554,891	903,426	550,512
(Gain) loss on disposal of assets	(6,969)	55,115	(41,636)
Deferred income taxes	(1,542,439)	(1,343,380)	(766,817)
Changes in operating assets and liabilities			
Receivables, net	(2,418,143)	(326,034)	(943,183)
Inventories	(24,379)	(15,214)	(3,756)
Prepaid expenses	(311,248)	(431,507)	(55,377)
Other assets	(2,735,433)	-	-
Accounts payable	2,249,649	1,255,038	1,587,855
Accrued expenses	(648,694)	1,156,630	1,134,254
Federal income taxes payable	(16,457)	16,457	-
Net cash provided by operating activities	30,138,777	35,222,261	31,013,441
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Proceeds from sale of assets	6,969	38,280	41,636
Change in construction payable	1,971,022	-	-
Acquisition of property and equipment	(17,287,483)	(5,795,089)	(6,113,220)
Net cash used in investing activities	(15,309,492)	(5,756,809)	(6,071,584)
Cash flows from financing activities:			
Proceeds from exercise of stock options	602,636	2,213,489	429,859
Deferred tax asset write-off	-	(203,067)	-
Tax benefit of stock option exercise	292,757	722,819	-
Proceeds from long-term borrowings	-	-	3,000,000
Principal payments on long-term debt	-	(8,100,000)	(27,300,000)
Purchase of treasury stock	(13,874,045)	-	-
Net cash used in financing activities	(12,978,652)	(5,366,759)	(23,870,141)
Net increase in cash	1,850,633	24,098,693	1,071,716
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	36,985,187	12,886,494	11,814,778
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	\$ 38,835,820	\$ 36,985,187	\$ 12,886,494

Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information:

Cash paid for interest	\$ 3,437	\$ 66,659	\$ 973,314
Cash paid for income taxes	\$ 15,247,923	\$ 12,300,000	\$ 11,250,000

The accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements are an integral part of these statements.

MONARCH CASINO & RESORT, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Presentation

Monarch Casino & Resort, Inc. ("Monarch"), a Nevada corporation, was incorporated in 1993. Monarch's wholly-owned subsidiary, Golden Road Motor Inn, Inc. ("Golden Road"), operates the Atlantis Casino Resort Spa (the "Atlantis"), a hotel/casino facility in Reno, Nevada. Unless stated otherwise, the "Company" refers collectively to Monarch and its Golden Road subsidiary.

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Monarch and Golden Road. Intercompany balances and transactions are eliminated.

Use of Estimates

In preparing these financial statements in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles, management is required to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and revenues and expenses during the year. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Self-insurance Reserves

The Company reviews self-insurance reserves at least quarterly. The reserve is determined by reviewing the actual expenditures for the previous twelve-month period and reports prepared by the third party plan administrator for any significant unpaid claims. The reserve is accrued at an amount that approximates amounts needed to pay both reported and unreported claims as of the balance sheet date, which management believes are adequate.

Capitalized Interest

The Company capitalizes interest costs associated with debt incurred in connection with major construction projects. When no debt is specifically identified as being incurred in connection with a construction project, the Company capitalizes interest on amounts expended on the project at the Company's average cost of borrowed money. Interest capitalization is ceased when the project is substantially complete. The Company did not record capitalized interest during the years ended December 31, 2007, 2006 and 2005.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, as well as investments purchased with an original maturity of 90 days or less.

Inventories

Inventories, consisting primarily of food, beverages, and retail merchandise, are stated at the lower of cost or market. Cost is determined on a first-in, first-out basis.

Property and Equipment

Edgar Filing: MONARCH CASINO & RESORT INC - Form 10-K

Property and equipment are stated at cost, less accumulated depreciation and amortization. Property and equipment is depreciated principally on a straight line basis over the estimated service lives as follows:

Land improvements		15-40 years
Buildings	30-40 years	
Building improvements		15-40 years
Furniture	5-10 years	
Equipment	5-20 years	

In accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards ("SFAS") No. 144, "Accounting for the Impairment and Disposal of Long-Lived Assets," the Company evaluates the carrying value of its long-lived assets for impairment at least annually or whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value of the assets may not be recoverable from related future undiscounted cash flows. Indicators which could trigger an impairment review include legal and regulatory factors, market conditions and operational performance. Any resulting impairment loss, measured as the difference between the carrying amount and the fair value of the assets, could have a material adverse impact on the Company's financial condition and results of operations.

Casino Revenues

Casino revenues represent the net win from gaming activity, which is the difference between wins and losses. Additionally, net win is reduced by a provision for anticipated payouts on slot participation fees, progressive jackpots and any pre-arranged marker discounts.

Promotional Allowances

Our frequent player program, Club Paradise, allows members, through the frequency of their play at our casino, to earn and accumulate points which may be redeemed for a variety of goods and services at our Atlantis Casino Resort Spa. Points may be applied toward room stays at our hotel, food and beverage consumption at any of our food outlets, gift shop items as well as goods and services at our spa and beauty salon. Points earned may also be applied toward off-property events such as concerts, shows and sporting events. Points may not be redeemed for cash.

Awards under our frequent player program are recognized as promotional expenses at the time of redemption.

The retail value of hotel, food and beverage services provided to customers without charge is included in gross revenue and deducted as promotional allowances. The estimated departmental costs of providing such promotional allowances are included in casino costs and expenses as follows:

	Years ended December 31,		
	2007	2006	2005
Food and beverage	\$ 12,735,942	\$ 11,706,382	\$ 11,363,365
Hotel	2,143,988	2,004,909	1,820,435
Other	460,099	504,945	436,430
	\$ 15,340,029	\$ 14,216,236	\$ 13,620,230

Advertising Costs

All advertising costs are expensed as incurred. Advertising expense, which is included in selling, general and administrative expense, was \$3,657,712, \$3,533,057 and \$3,321,653 for 2007, 2006 and 2005, respectively.

Income Taxes

Income taxes are recorded in accordance with the liability method specified by SFAS No. 109, "Accounting for Income Taxes." Under the asset and liability approach for financial accounting and reporting for income taxes, the following basic principles are applied in accounting for income taxes at the date of the financial statements: (a) a current liability or asset is recognized for the estimated taxes payable or refundable on taxes for the current year; (b) a deferred income tax liability or asset is recognized for the estimated future tax effects attributable to temporary differences and carryforwards; (c) the measurement of current and deferred tax liabilities and assets is based on the provisions of the enacted tax law; the effects of future changes in tax laws or rates are not anticipated; and (d) the measurement of deferred income taxes is reduced, if necessary, by the amount of any tax benefits that, based upon available evidence, are not expected to be realized.

The Company also applies the requirements of FIN 48 which prescribes minimum recognition thresholds a tax position is required to meet before being recognized in the financial statements. FIN 48 also provides guidance on derecognition, measurement, classification, interest and penalties, accounting in interim periods, disclosure and transition. Implementation has resulted in no material impact on the Company's financial position or results of operations.

Allowance for Doubtful Accounts

The Company extends short-term credit to its gaming customers. Such credit is non-interest bearing and due on demand. In addition, the Company also has receivables due from hotel guests which are primarily secured with a credit card at the time a customer checks in. An allowance for doubtful accounts is set up for all Company receivables based upon the Company's historical collection and write-off experience, unless situations warrant a specific identification of a necessary reserve related to certain receivables. The Company charges off its uncollectible receivables once all efforts have been made to collect such receivables. The book value of receivables approximates fair value due to the short-term nature of the receivables.

Stock Based Compensation

The Company maintains three stock option plans, which are described more fully in Note 8. Prior to January 1, 2006, the Company accounted for these plans under the recognition and measurement principles of Accounting Principles Board Opinion No. 25, "Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees" ("APB No. 25") and related interpretations in accounting for its plans. For the year ended December 31, 2005, no stock-based compensation costs are reflected in net income, as all options granted under those plans had an exercise price equal to the market value of the underlying common stock on the date of the grant.

Effective January 1, 2006, the Company adopted the fair value recognition provisions of FASB Statement 123(R), Share-Based Payment, using the modified prospective transition method. Under that transition method, compensation cost recognized in the years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006 include: (a) compensation cost for 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 provisions of Statement 123(R), and (b) 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 Statement 123(R). Results for prior periods have not been restated.

As a result of adopting Statement 123(R) on January 1, 2006, the Company's income before income taxes for the years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006 is \$2.3 million and \$3.3 million lower, and net income for the years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006 is \$1.5 million and \$2.2 million lower, respectively, than if it had continued to account for share based compensation under APB 25. Basic and diluted earnings per share would have been \$1.36 and \$1.34, respectively, for the year ended December 31, 2007 and would have been \$1.28 and \$1.26, respectively for the year

Edgar Filing: MONARCH CASINO & RESORT INC - Form 10-K

ended December 31, 2006, respectively, if the Company had not adopted Statement 123(R).

Prior to the adoption of Statement 123(R), the Company presented all tax benefits of deductions resulting from the exercise of stock options as operating cash flows in the Statement of Cash Flows. Statement 123(R) requires the cash flows resulting from the tax benefits resulting from tax deductions in excess of the compensation cost recognized for those options (excess tax benefits) to be classified as financing cash flows. The \$292,757 and \$722,819 excess tax benefits for the years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006 classified as financing cash inflows would have been classified as operating cash inflows if the Company had not adopted Statement 123(R).

The following table illustrates the effect on net income and earnings per share if the Company had applied the fair value recognition provisions of Statement 123 to options granted under the Company's stock option plans in all periods presented. If the Company had elected to recognize compensation cost on the fair market value at the grant dates for awards under the stock option plans, consistent with the method prescribed by Statement 123, net income and income per share for the year ended December 31, 2005 would have been changed to the pro forma amounts indicated below:

	December 31, 2005
Net income, as reported	\$ 21,035,460
Stock based employee compensation expensed determined under the fair value based method for all awards, net of related tax effects	(1,113,398)
Pro forma net income	\$ 19,922,062
Basic earnings per share	
As reported	\$ 1.12
Pro forma	\$ 1.06
Diluted earnings per share	
As reported	\$ 1.10
Pro forma	\$ 1.04

Earnings Per Share

The Company reports "basic" earnings per share and "diluted" earnings per share in accordance with the provisions of SFAS No. 128, "Earnings Per Share." Basic earnings per share is computed by dividing reported net earnings by the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding during the period. Diluted earnings per share reflect the additional dilution for all potentially dilutive securities such as stock options.

The following is a reconciliation of the number of shares (denominator) used in the basic and diluted earnings per share computations (shares in thousands):

	Years ended December 31,					
	2007		2006		2005	
	Shares	Per Share Amount	Shares	Per Share Amount	Shares	Per Share Amount
Net income						
Basic	19,058	\$ 1.28	18,990	\$ 1.16	18,849	\$ 1.12
Effect of dilutive	271	(0.01)	285	(0.01)	245	(0.02)

Edgar Filing: MONARCH CASINO & RESORT INC - Form 10-K

stock options							
Diluted	19,329	\$	1.27	19,275	\$	1.15	19,094 \$ 1.10

The following options were not included in the computation of diluted earnings per share because the options' exercise prices were greater than the average market price of the common shares and their inclusion would be antidilutive:

	Years ended December 31,		
	2007	2006	2005
Options to purchase shares of common stock (in thousands)	232	122	35
Exercise prices	\$27.39-\$30.07	\$25.89-\$28.25	\$19.98-\$21.46
Expiration dates (mo./yr.)	5/16-10/17	5/16-6/16	4/15-11/15

Fair Value of Financial Instruments

The following disclosure of the estimated fair value of financial instruments is made in accordance with the requirements of SFAS No. 107 "Disclosures About Fair Value of Financial Instruments." The estimated fair value of the Company's financial instruments has been determined by the Company, using available market information and valuation methodologies. However, considerable judgment is required to develop the estimates of fair value; thus, the estimates provided herein are not necessarily indicative of the amounts that the Company could realize in a current market exchange.

The carrying amounts of cash, receivables, accounts payable and accrued expenses approximate fair value because of the short-term nature of these instruments.

Concentrations of Credit Risk

Financial instruments which potentially subject the Company to concentrations of credit risk consist principally of bank deposits, short term investments of surplus cash and trade receivables. The Company maintains its surplus cash in bank accounts and money market mutual funds which, at times, may exceed federally insured limits. The Company has not experienced any losses in such accounts. Concentrations of credit risk with respect to trade receivables are limited due to the large number of customers comprising the Company's customer base. The Company believes it is not exposed to any significant credit risk on cash and accounts receivable.

Impact of Recently Issued Accounting Standards

In September 2006, the FASB issued SFAS 157, Fair Value Measurements. SFAS 157 defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value in generally accepted accounting principles and expands disclosures about fair value measurements. This Statement applies under other accounting pronouncements that require or permit fair value measurements, accordingly, this Statement does not require any new fair value measurements. However, for some entities, the application of this Statement will change current practice. This Statement is effective for financial statements issued for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007, and interim periods within those fiscal years. The Company is currently evaluating the provisions of SFAS 157 to determine its impact, if any, on the Company's financial position and results of operations.

Edgar Filing: MONARCH CASINO & RESORT INC - Form 10-K

In February 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 159, "The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities Including an Amendment of FASB Statement No. 115." SFAS No. 159 permits entities to choose to measure many financial instruments and certain other items at fair value, with unrealized gains and losses related to these financial instruments reported in earnings at each subsequent reporting date. SFAS No. 159 is effective for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007. The Company is currently evaluating the impact that the adoption of SFAS No. 159 will have on its consolidated financial statements.

In December 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 141 (revised 2007), "Business Combinations." SFAS No. 141 (revised) establishes principles and requirements for how an acquirer recognizes and measures in its financial statements the identifiable assets acquired, the liabilities assumed, noncontrolling interest in the acquiree and the goodwill acquired. The revision is intended to simplify existing guidance and converge rulemaking under U.S. GAAP with international accounting rules. This statement applies prospectively to business combinations where the acquisition date is on or after the beginning of the first annual reporting period beginning on or after December 15, 2008. The adoption of SFAS No. 141 (revised) is not expected to have a material impact on the Company's financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

In December 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 160, "Noncontrolling Interest in Consolidated Financial Statements, an amendment of ARB No. 51." This statement establishes accounting and reporting standards for ownership interest in subsidiaries held by parties other than the parent and for the deconsolidation of a subsidiary. It also clarifies that a noncontrolling interest in a subsidiary is an ownership interest in the consolidated entity that should be reported as equity in the consolidated financial statements. SFAS No. 160 changes the way the consolidated income statement is presented by requiring consolidated net income to be reported at amounts that include the amount attributable to both the parent and the noncontrolling interests. The statement also establishes reporting requirements that provide sufficient disclosure that clearly identify and distinguish between the interest of the parent and those of the noncontrolling owners. This statement is effective for fiscal years beginning on or after December 15, 2008. The adoption of SFAS No. 160 is not expected to have a material impact on the Company's financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

NOTE 2. ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

Accounts receivable consist of the following:

	December 31,	
	2007	2006
Casino	\$ 4,135,884	\$ 3,338,227
Hotel	665,079	1,019,019
Other	751,255	165,021
	5,552,218	4,522,267
Less allowance for doubtful accounts	(1,418,119)	(1,253,297)
	\$ 4,134,099	\$ 3,268,970

The Company recorded bad debt expense of \$554,891, \$903,426 and \$550,512 in 2007, 2006 and 2005, respectively.

NOTE 3. ACCRUED EXPENSES

Accrued expenses consist of the following:

December 31,	
2007	2006

Edgar Filing: MONARCH CASINO & RESORT INC - Form 10-K

Accrued salaries, wages and related benefits	\$ 4,022,526	\$ 4,714,956
Progressive slot machine and other gaming accruals	2,785,054	2,539,657
Accrued gaming taxes	374,754	660,478
Accrued interest	25,534	25,534
Other accrued liabilities	2,022,289	1,938,226
	\$ 9,230,157	\$ 9,878,851

NOTE 4. LEASE COMMITMENTS

In 2004, a driveway was constructed that is being shared between the Atlantis and the adjacent Sierra Marketplace Shopping Center that is owned and controlled by affiliates of the Company's principal stockholders (the "Shopping Center"). A traffic signal was erected at mid-block on South Virginia Street, serving the driveway. As part of this project, the Company is leasing a 37,368 square-foot corner section of the Shopping Center for a minimum lease term of 15 years at an annual rent of \$300,000, subject to increase every 60 months based on the Consumer Price Index. The Company is also using part of the common area of the Shopping Center and pays its proportional share of the common area expense of the Shopping Center. The Company has the option to renew the lease for 3 five-year terms, and at the end of the extension periods, the Company has the option to purchase the leased section of the Shopping Center at a price to be determined based on an MAI appraisal. The Company uses the leased driveway space for pedestrian and vehicle access to the Atlantis, and the Company has use of a portion of the parking spaces at the Shopping Center. The total cost of the project was \$2.0 million; the Company was responsible for two thirds of the total cost, or \$1.35 million. The project was completed, the driveway was put into use and the Company began paying rent on September 30, 2004. The cost of the driveway is being depreciated over the initial 15-year lease term; some components of the driveway are being depreciated over a shorter period of time.

On December 24, 2007, the Company entered into a lease with Triple "J" Plus, LLC (Triple J) for the use of a facility on 2.3 acres of land (jointly "the Property") across Virginia Street from the Atlantis that the Company plans to utilize for administrative office and storage space for Atlantis staff. The managing partner of Triple J is a first-cousin of John and Bob Farahi, the Company's Chief Executive Officer and President, respectively. The term of the lease is two years requiring monthly rental payments of \$20,256. Commensurate with execution of the lease, the Company entered into an agreement that provides the Company with a purchase option on the Property at the expiration of the lease period while also providing Triple J with a put option to cause the Company to purchase the Property during the lease period. The purchase price of the Property has been established by a third party appraisal company. Lastly, as a condition of the lease and purchase option, the Company entered into a promissory note (the Note) with Triple J whereby the Company advanced a \$2.7 million loan to Triple J. The Note requires interest only payments at 5.25% and matures on the earlier of i) the date the Company acquires the Property or ii) January 1, 2010. At December 31, 2007, the fair value of the loan approximated book value.

The Company accounts for its rental expense using the straight-line method over the original lease term. Rental increases based on the change in the CPI are contingent and accounted for prospectively.

Following is a summary of future minimum payments under operating leases that have initial or remaining noncancelable lease terms in excess of one year at December 31, 2007:

Year ending December 31,	Operating Leases
2008	\$ 613,000
2009	613,000
2010	370,000

2011	370,000
2012	370,000
Thereafter	2,498,000
Total minimum lease payments	\$ 4,834,000

Rental expense for operating leases amounted to \$0, \$9,085 and \$79,383 in 2007, 2006 and 2005, respectively, as reported in selling, general and administrative expenses in the statements of income.

NOTE 5. LONG-TERM DEBT

THE CREDIT FACILITY

Until February 20, 2004, the Company had a reducing revolving term loan credit facility with a consortium of banks that was to expire on June 30, 2004, (the "Original Credit Facility"). On February 20, 2004, the Original Credit Facility was refinanced (the "New Credit Facility") for \$50 million, which included the \$46 million payoff of the unpaid balance of the Original Credit Facility. At December 31, 2007 and 2006, the Company had no borrowings under the New Credit Facility; however, its leverage ratio was such that the pricing for borrowings would have been the Base Rate plus 0.00 percent or LIBOR plus 1.00 percent.

Effective February 2007, in consideration of the Company's cash balance, cash expected to be generated from operations and to avoid agency and commitment fees, the Company elected to permanently reduce the available borrowings to \$5 million. The Company may permanently reduce the maximum principal available under the New Credit Facility at any time so long as the amount of such reduction is at least \$500,000 and a multiple of \$50,000. The Company in the future may utilize borrowings from the New Credit Facility for working capital needs, general corporate purposes and for ongoing capital expenditure requirements.

Borrowings under the New Credit Facility would be secured by liens on substantially all of the real and personal property of the Atlantis and is guaranteed by Monarch.

The New Credit Facility contains covenants customary and typical for a facility of this nature, including, but not limited to, covenants requiring the preservation and maintenance of Company assets and covenants restricting the Company's ability to merge, transfer ownership of Monarch, incur additional indebtedness, encumber assets and make certain investments. The New Credit Facility also contains covenants requiring the Company to maintain certain financial ratios and contains provisions that restrict cash transfers between Monarch and its affiliates. The New Credit Facility also contains provisions requiring the achievement of certain financial ratios before the Company can repurchase its common stock. Management does not consider the covenants to restrict operations.

The maturity date of any borrowings under the New Credit Facility is February 23, 2009. The Company may prepay borrowings under the New Credit Facility without penalty (subject to certain charges applicable to the prepayment of LIBOR borrowings prior to the end of the applicable interest period). Amounts prepaid under the New Credit Facility may be reborrowed so long as the total borrowings outstanding do not exceed the maximum principal available.

The Company paid various one-time fees and other loan costs upon the closing of the refinancing of the New Credit Facility that will be amortized over the term of the New Credit Facility using the straight-line method.

NOTE 6. INCOME TAXES

Income tax provision (benefit) from continuing operations consists of the following:

Edgar Filing: MONARCH CASINO & RESORT INC - Form 10-K

	Years ended December 31,		
	2007	2006	2005
Current provision	\$ 14,494,634	\$ 13,157,285	\$ 11,834,750
Deferred provision (benefit)	(1,510,974)	(1,377,695)	(814,198)
	\$ 12,983,660	\$ 11,779,590	\$ 11,020,552

Income tax benefits were recognized through stockholders' equity of \$292,757, \$519,751 and \$330,333 during the years of 2007, 2006 and 2005, respectively, as compensation expense for tax purposes in excess of amounts recognized for financial reporting purposes.

The difference between the Company's provision for federal income taxes as presented in the accompanying Consolidated Statements of Income, and the provision for income taxes computed at the statutory rate is comprised of the items shown in the following table as a percentage of pre-tax earnings.

	Years ended December 31,		
	2007	2006	2005
Income tax at the statutory rate	35.00%	35.00%	35.00%
Non-deductible expenses and other	-	-	-
Tax credits	-0.30%	-0.20%	-0.60%
	34.70%	34.80%	34.40%

The components of the deferred income tax assets and liabilities at December 31, 2007 and 2006, as presented in the Consolidated Balance Sheets, are as follows:

	2007	2006
DEFERRED TAX ASSETS		
Share based compensation	\$ 1,375,644	\$ 659,231
Compensation and benefits	337,275	393,087
Bad debt reserves	496,342	438,654
Accrued gaming liabilities	489,910	353,360
Accrued interest	8,937	8,937
Accrued other	216,455	199,499
Deferred income tax asset	\$ 2,924,563	\$ 2,052,768
DEFERRED TAX LIABILITIES		
Impairment of assets	\$ (72,260)	\$ (72,260)
Depreciation	(4,059,567)	(4,749,378)
Land basis	(285,706)	(285,706)
Real estate taxes	(248,179)	(229,013)
Deferred income tax liability	\$ (4,665,712)	\$ (5,336,357)
NET DEFERRED INCOME TAX LIABILITY	\$ (1,741,149)	\$ (3,283,589)

The January 1, 2007 adoption of FASB Interpretation 48, Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes, did not affect the Company's financial position. The Company is required to file a federal tax return only. As of December 31, 2007, tax years 2004 through 2007 were subject to examination by the Internal Revenue Service. The Company's accounting policy with respect to interest and penalties arising from income tax settlements is to recognize them as part of the provision for income taxes. The Company does not anticipate that the amount of unrecognized tax benefits will significantly increase or decrease through the twelve month period ending December 31, 2008.

NOTE 7. BENEFIT PLANS

Savings Plan - Effective November 1, 1995, the Company adopted a savings plan, which qualifies under Section 401(k) of the Internal Revenue Code. Under the plan, participating employees may defer up to 15% of their pre-tax compensation, but not more than statutory limits. For years earlier than 2007, the Company contributed twenty five cents for each dollar contributed by a participant, with a maximum contribution of 4% of a participant's compensation. Effective January 1, 2007, the Company increased its contribution to fifty cents for each dollar contributed by a participant. The Company's matching contributions were approximately \$238,510, \$59,774 and \$46,504 in 2007, 2006 and 2005, respectively.

NOTE 8. SHARE-BASED COMPENSATION

The Company's three stock option plans, consisting of the Directors' Stock Option Plan, the Executive Long-term Incentive Plan and the Employee Stock Option Plan (the "Plans"), which collectively provide for the granting of options to purchase up to 3,250,000 common shares. The exercise price of stock options granted under the Plans is established by the respective plan committees, but the exercise price may not be less than the market price of the Company's common stock on the date the option is granted. The Company stock options typically vest on a graded schedule, typically in equal, one-third increments, although the respective stock option committees have the discretion to impose different vesting periods or modify existing vesting periods. Options expire ten years from the grant date. By their amended terms, the Plans will expire in June 2013 after which no options may be granted.

A summary of the current year stock option activity as of and for the twelve months ended December 31, 2007 is presented below:

Options	Shares	Exercise Price	Weighted Average	
			Remaining Contractual Term	Aggregate Intrinsic Value
Outstanding at beginning of period	1,121,199	\$ 16.49	-	-
Granted	260,307	28.20	-	-
Exercised	(56,080)	10.75	-	-
Forfeited	(30,000)	19.51	-	-
Expired	-	-	-	-
Outstanding at end of period	1,295,426	\$ 19.04	8.0 yrs.	\$ 6,551,603
Exercisable at end of period	512,750	\$ 13.12	7.0 yrs.	\$ 5,621,279

A summary of the status of the Company's nonvested shares as of December 31, 2007, and changes during the year and changes during the year ended December 31, 2007, is presented below:

Nonvested Shares	Shares	Weighted-Average Grant Date Fair Value	
Nonvested at January 1, 2007	774,330	\$	18.14
Granted	260,307		11.24
Vested	(221,961)		6.23
Forfeited	(30,000)		8.44
Nonvested at December 31, 2007	782,676	\$	10.43

Expense Measurement and Recognition:

On January 1, 2006, the Company adopted the provisions of SFAS 123R requiring the measurement and recognition of all share-based compensation under the fair value method. The Company implemented SFAS 123R using the modified prospective transition method. Accordingly, for the years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006, the Company recognized share-based compensation for all current award grants and for the unvested portion of previous award grants based on grant date fair values. Prior to fiscal 2006, the Company accounted for share-based awards under the disclosure-only provisions of SFAS No. 123, as amended by SFAS No. 148, but applied APB No. 25 and related interpretations in accounting for the Plans, which resulted in pro-forma compensation expense only for stock option awards. Prior period financial statements have not been adjusted to reflect fair value share-based compensation expense under SFAS 123R. See additional discussion at NOTE 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES. With the adoption of SFAS 123R, we changed our method of expense attribution for fair value share-based compensation from the straight-line approach to the accelerated approach for all awards granted. The Company anticipates the accelerated method will provide a more meaningful measure of costs incurred and be most representative of the economic reality associated with unvested stock options outstanding. Unrecognized costs related to all share-based awards outstanding at December 31, 2007 totaled approximately \$5.0 million and is expected to be recognized over a weighted average period of 1.48 years.

The Company uses historical data and projections to estimate expected employee, executive and director behaviors related to option exercises and forfeitures.

The Company estimates the fair value of each stock option award on the grant date using the Black-Scholes valuation model incorporating the assumptions noted in the following table. Option valuation models require the input of highly subjective assumptions, and changes in assumptions used can materially affect the fair value estimate. Option valuation assumptions for options granted during each year were as follows:

	Years ended December 31,		
	2007	2006	2005
Expected volatility	50.3%	38.0%	46.7%
Expected dividends	-	-	-
Expected life (in years)			
Directors' Plan	2.5	2.5	6.2
Executive Plan	4.5	6.9	9.0
Employee Plan	3.1	2.9	5.5
Weighted average risk free rate	4.1%	4.6%	4.0%
Weighted average grant date fair value per share of options granted	\$ 11.24	\$ 10.64	\$ 9.19
Total intrinsic value of options exercised	\$ 747,770	\$ 2,238,390	\$ 1,081,274
Cash received for all stock option exercises	\$ 602,636	\$ 2,213,489	\$ 429,859
Tax benefit realized for tax return deductions	\$ 292,757	\$ 519,752	\$ 330,333

The risk-free interest rate is based on the U.S. treasury security rate in effect as of the date of grant. The expected lives of options are based on historical data of the Company. In 2006, the Company determined that an implied volatility is more reflective of market conditions and a better indicator of expected volatility.

Reported stock based compensation expense was classified as follows:

	For the years ended	
	December 31,	
	2007	2006
Casino	\$ 72,509	\$ 59,685
Food & beverage	53,542	51,673
Hotel	38,071	47,233
Selling, general and administrative	2,106,935	3,115,117
Total stock-based compensation, before taxes	2,271,057	3,273,708
Tax benefit	(794,870)	(1,145,797)
Total stock-based compensation, net of tax	\$ 1,476,187	\$ 2,127,911

NOTE 9. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

Self Insurance - The Company is self-insured for health care claims for eligible active employees. Benefit plan administrators assist the Company in determining its liability for self-insured claims, and such claims are not discounted. The Company is also self-insured for workers' compensation. Both plans limit the Company's maximum liability under stop-loss agreements with insurance companies. The maximum liability for health care claims under the stop-loss agreement is \$85,000 per claim. The maximum liability for workers' compensation under the stop-loss agreement is \$500,000 per claim.

On September 28, 2006, the Company's Board of Directors authorized a stock repurchase plan that superseded an older plan adopted in 2003 (the "Repurchase Plan"). Under the Repurchase Plan, the Board of Directors authorized a program to repurchase up to 1,000,000 shares of the Company's common stock in the open market or in privately negotiated transactions from time to time, in compliance with Rule 10b-18 of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, subject to market conditions, applicable legal requirements and other factors. The Repurchase Plan does not obligate the Company to acquire any particular amount of common stock and the plan may be suspended at any time at the Company's discretion. Through December 31, 2007, the Company purchased 555,508 shares pursuant to the Repurchase Plan.

As previously disclosed, litigation was filed against Monarch on January 27, 2006, by Kerzner International Limited ("Kerzner") owner of the Atlantis, Paradise Island, Bahamas in the United States District Court, District of Nevada. The case number assigned to the matter is 3:06-cv-00232-ECR (RAM). The complaint seeks declaratory judgment prohibiting Monarch from using the name "Atlantis" in connection with offering casino services other than at Monarch's Atlantis Casino Resort Spa located in Reno, Nevada, and particularly prohibiting Monarch from using the "Atlantis" name in connection with offering casino services in Las Vegas, Nevada; injunctive relief enforcing the same; unspecified compensatory and punitive damages; and other relief. Monarch believes Kerzner's claims to be entirely without merit and is defending vigorously against the suit. Further, Monarch has filed a counterclaim against Kerzner seeking to enforce the license agreement granting Monarch the exclusive right to use the Atlantis name in association with lodging throughout the state of Nevada; to cancel Kerzner's registration of the Atlantis mark for casino services on the basis that the mark was fraudulently obtained by Kerzner; and to obtain declaratory relief on these issues. Litigation is in the discovery phase.

In June 2007, the Company announced the groundbreaking on an expansion project with completion expected in the second quarter of 2008. New space will be added to the first floor casino level, the second and third floors and the basement level. The existing casino floor will be expanded. The first floor casino plans include a redesigned, updated and expanded race and sports book and an enlarged poker room. The expansion will also include a New

York-style deli restaurant. The second floor expansion will create additional ballroom and convention space doubling the existing facilities. The spa and fitness center will be remodeled and expanded to create an ultra-modern spa and fitness center facility. The Company also plans to add a pedestrian skywalk over Peckham Lane that will connect the Reno-Sparks Convention Center directly to the Atlantis. Construction of the skywalk is expected to be completed in the fourth quarter of 2008. The expansion is estimated to cost approximately \$50 million and the Atlantis Convention Center Skybridge project is estimated to cost an additional \$12.5 million. Through December 31, 2007, the Company has paid approximately \$17.2 million of the estimated expansion and skybridge cost.

The Company is a defendant in various pending legal proceedings. In the opinion of management, all pending claims in such litigation will not, in the aggregate, have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial position, cash flows or results of operations.

NOTE 10. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

On July 26, 2006, the Company submitted a formal offer to Biggest Little Investments, L.P. ("BLI"), formulated and delivered by a committee comprised of the Company's independent directors (the "Committee"), to purchase the 18.95-acre shopping center (the "Shopping Center") adjacent to the Atlantis Casino Resort Spa. On October 16, 2006, the Committee received a letter from counsel to BLI advising the Company that BLI, through its general partner, Maxum, L.L.C., had "decided that such offer is not in the best interest of the Partnership's limited partners and, therefore, will not be entering into negotiations with Monarch." While there have been subsequent communications between BLI and the Company from time to time regarding our interest in the Shopping Center, nothing has resulted. The Board of Directors continues to consider expansion alternatives.

John Farahi, Bob Farahi and Ben Farahi, beneficially own a controlling interest in BLI through their beneficial ownership interest in Western Real Estate Investments, LLC. John Farahi is Co-Chairman of the Board, Chief Executive Officer, Chief Operating Officer and a Director of Monarch. Bob Farahi is Co-Chairman of the Board, President, Secretary and a Director of Monarch. Ben Farahi formerly was the Co-Chairman of the Board, Secretary, Treasurer, Chief Financial Officer and a Director of Monarch. Monarch's board of directors accepted Ben Farahi's resignation from these positions on May 23, 2006.

The Company currently rents various spaces in the Shopping Center which it uses as office, storage space and guest parking and paid rent of approximately \$262,700 plus common area expenses in 2007. The Company paid rent of approximately \$95,520 and \$85,730 plus common area expenses in 2006 and 2005, respectively.

In addition, a driveway that is being shared between the Atlantis and the Shopping Center was completed on September 30, 2004. As part of this project, in January 2004, the Company leased a 37,368 square-foot corner section of the Shopping Center for a minimum lease term of 15 years at an annual rent of \$300,000, subject to increase every 60 months based on the Consumer Price Index. The Company began paying rent to the Shopping Center on September 30, 2004. The Company also uses part of the common area of the Shopping Center and pays its proportional share of the common area expense of the Shopping Center. The Company has the option to renew the lease for 3 five-year terms, and at the end of the extension periods, the Company has the option to purchase the leased driveway section of the Shopping Center at a price to be determined based on an MAI Appraisal. The leased space is being used by the Company for pedestrian and vehicle access to the Atlantis, and the Company may use a portion of the parking spaces at the Shopping Center. The total cost of the project was \$2.0 million; the Company was responsible for two thirds of the total cost, or \$1.35 million. The Company paid approximately \$300,000 plus common area charges in each of the years 2007, 2006 and 2005 for its leased driveway space at the Shopping Center.

The Company is currently leasing sign space from the Shopping Center. The lease took effect in March 2005 for a monthly cost of \$1. The lease was renewed for another year with a monthly lease of \$1,000 effective January 1, 2006. The Company paid \$12,420 and \$12,000 for the twelve months ended December 31, 2007 and 2006,

respectively, and did not make any payments during 2005.

On September 23, 2003, the Company entered into an option agreement with an affiliate of its principal stockholders to purchase property in South Reno for development of a new hotel casino. Through the property owner, the Company filed an application with the City of Reno for both master plan and zoning changes for 13 acres of the property. On January 20, 2005, the City of Reno Planning Commission approved the application for zoning change on the property; the Reno City Council would next have to approve the application. On April 13, 2005, the Reno City Council rejected the application for master plan and zoning change. As a result of the City Council's decision, the Company expensed in 2005 a charge of approximately \$289,000 in gaming development costs related to the potential new hotel casino. The option agreement was set to expire on September 15, 2005 and the Company's Board of Directors voted to let the agreement expire on such date without exercising the option to purchase.

The Company is currently leasing billboard advertising space from affiliates of its principal stockholders for a total cost of \$49,000 in 2007, \$42,000 in 2006 and \$31,500 in 2005.

Until December 2006, the Company rented office and storage space from a company affiliated with Monarch's principal stockholders and paid rent of approximately \$26,000 in 2006, \$28,000 in 2005 and did not incur any such expense in 2007. Effective December 2006, Monarch's principal stockholders sold this building and, through April 15, 2007, the Company continued to rent space from the new owner which is not a related party to Monarch.

On December 24, 2007, the Company entered into a lease with Triple "J" Plus, LLC (Triple J) for the use of a facility on 2.3 acres of land (jointly "the Property") across Virginia Street from the Atlantis that the Company plans to utilize for administrative staff offices. The managing partner of Triple J is a first-cousin of John and Bob Farahi, the Company's Chief Executive Officer and President, respectively. The term of the lease is two years requiring monthly rental payments of \$20,256. Commensurate with execution of the lease, the Company entered into an agreement that provides the Company with a purchase option on the Property at the expiration of the lease period while also providing Triple J with a put option to cause the Company to purchase the Property during the lease period. The purchase price of the Property has been established by a third party appraisal company. Lastly, as a condition of the lease and purchase option, the Company entered into a promissory note (the Note) with Triple J whereby the Company advanced a \$2.7 million loan to Triple J. The Note requires interest only payments at 5.25% and matures on the earlier of i) the date the Company acquires the Property or ii) January 1, 2010.

NOTE 11: SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

On March 11, 2008, the Board of Directors authorized a new repurchase plan (the "New Repurchase Plan") for up to 1,000,000 shares of the Company's common stock to be repurchased in the open market or in privately negotiated transactions from time to time, in compliance with Rule 10b-18 of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, subject to market conditions, applicable legal requirements and other factors. The New Repurchase Plan does not obligate the Company to acquire any particular amount of common stock and the New Repurchase Plan may be suspended at any time at the Company's discretion. The Company had repurchased all authorized Company common stock under the previous Repurchase Plan.

NOTE 12. SELECTED QUARTERLY FINANCIAL DATA (UNAUDITED)

	2007				
	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Total
Net revenues	\$ 37,781,591	\$ 41,561,320	\$ 43,623,296	\$ 36,890,164	\$ 159,856,371
Operating expenses	29,551,263	31,481,233	31,877,887	31,258,286	124,168,669
Income from operations	8,230,328	10,080,087	11,745,409	5,631,878	35,687,702
Net income	5,495,112	6,900,450	8,033,871	4,050,785	24,480,218
Income per share of common stock					
Basic	\$ 0.29	\$ 0.36	\$ 0.42	\$ 0.21	\$ 1.28
Diluted	\$ 0.28	\$ 0.36	\$ 0.41	\$ 0.21	\$ 1.27

	2006				
	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Total
Net revenues	\$ 35,605,134	\$ 37,622,776	\$ 41,748,378	\$ 36,992,666	\$ 151,968,954
Operating expenses	28,253,119	30,334,617	30,547,067	29,342,518	118,477,321
Income from operations	7,352,016	7,288,159	11,201,310	7,650,148	33,491,633
Net income	4,768,098	4,822,232	7,371,041	5,119,000	22,080,371
Income per share of common stock					
Basic	\$ 0.25	\$ 0.25	\$ 0.39	\$ 0.27	\$ 1.16
Diluted	\$ 0.25	\$ 0.25	\$ 0.38	\$ 0.27	\$ 1.15

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

None.

ITEM 9A. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

Disclosure Controls and Procedures

As of the end of the period covered by this Annual Report on Form 10-K, (the "Evaluation Date"), an evaluation was carried out by our management, with the participation of our Chief Executive Officer and our Chief Financial Officer, of the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined by Rule 13a-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934). Based upon the evaluation, our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of the end of the period covered by this report. No changes were made to our internal control over financial reporting (as defined by Rule 13a-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934) during the last fiscal quarter that materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

Management's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

Our management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting. Our internal control system was designed to provide reasonable assurance to our management and Board of Directors regarding the preparation and fair presentation of published financial statements.

All internal control systems, no matter how well designed, have inherent limitations, including the possibility of human error and the circumvention or overriding of controls. Accordingly, even effective internal controls can provide only reasonable assurances with respect to financial statement preparation. Further, because of changes in conditions, the effectiveness of internal controls may vary over time.

Management assessed the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2007. In making this assessment, it used the criteria set forth by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO) in Internal Control-Integrated Framework. Based on our assessment we believe that, as of December 31, 2007, the Company's internal control over financial reporting is effective based on those criteria.

The Company's independent registered public accounting firm has issued an audit report on our assessment of the Company's internal control over financial reporting. This report appears in Item 8 of this Form 10-K.

ITEM 9B. OTHER INFORMATION

None.

PART III

ITEM 10. DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF THE REGISTRANT

This information is incorporated by reference from the Company's Proxy Statement to be filed with the Commission in connection with the Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held on June 18, 2008.

ITEM 11. EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

This information is incorporated by reference from the Company's Proxy Statement to be filed with the Commission in connection with the Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held on June 18, 2008.

ITEM 12. SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT

Following is information related to the Company's equity compensation.

Plan Category	Number of securities to be issued upon exercise of outstanding options, warrants and rights	Weighted-average exercise price of outstanding options, warrants and rights	Number of securities remaining available for future issuance under equity compensation plans (excluding securities reflected in column (a))

Edgar Filing: MONARCH CASINO & RESORT INC - Form 10-K

	(a)		(b)	(c)
Equity compensation plans approved by security holders (F1)	1,295,426	\$	19.04	1,345,076
Equity compensation plans not approved by security holders	-		-	-
Total	1,295,426	\$	19.04	1,345,076

(F1) Includes the 1993 Directors' Stock Option Plan, 1993 Employee Stock Option Plan and 1993 Executive Long-Term Incentive Plan, as amended.

Additional information is incorporated by reference from the Company's Proxy Statement to be filed with the Commission in connection with the Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held on June 18, 2008.

ITEM 13. CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS

This information is incorporated by reference from the Company's Proxy Statement to be filed with the Commission in connection with the Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held on June 18, 2008.

ITEM 14. PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTANT FEES AND SERVICES

This information is incorporated by reference from the Company's Proxy Statement to be filed with the Commission in connection with the Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held on June 18, 2008.

PART IV

ITEM 15. EXHIBITS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT SCHEDULES

1. Financial Statements

Included in Part II of this report:

- a) Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm
- b) Consolidated Statements of Income for the years ended December 31, 2007, 2006 and 2005.
- c) Consolidated Balance Sheets at December 31, 2007 and 2006.
- d) Consolidated Statements of Stockholders' Equity for the years ended December 31, 2007, 2006 and 2005.
- e) Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the years ended December 31, 2007, 2006 and 2005.
- f) Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

2. Financial Statements Schedules

Schedule II. - VALUATION AND QUALIFYING ACCOUNTS

Year ended December 31,	Balance at beginning of year	Charged to costs and expenses	Deductions (F1)	Other	Balance at end of year
2005					
Allowance for doubtful accounts	\$ 800,683	\$ 550,512	\$ (269,448)	\$ -	\$ 1,081,747
2006					
Allowance for doubtful accounts	\$ 1,081,747	\$ 903,426	\$ (731,876)	\$ -	\$ 1,253,297
2007					
Allowance for doubtful accounts	\$ 1,253,297	\$ 554,891	\$ (390,069)	\$ -	\$ 1,418,119

(F1) The Company reviews receivables monthly and, accordingly, adjusts the allowance for doubtful accounts monthly. The Company records write-offs annually. The amount charged to Costs and Expenses reflects the bad debt expense recorded in the consolidated statements of income, while the amount recorded for Deductions reflects the adjustment to actual allowance for doubtful accounts reserve at the end of the period.

Exhibits

Number	Exhibit Description
3.01	Articles of Incorporation of Monarch Casino & Resort, Inc., filed June 11, 1993 are incorporated herein by reference from the Company's Form S-1 registration statement (SEC File 33-64556), Part II, Item 16, Exhibit 3.01.
3.02	Bylaws of Monarch Casino & Resort, Inc., adopted June 14, 1993 are incorporated herein by reference from the Company's Form S-1 registration statement (SEC File 33-64556), Part II, Item 16, Exhibit 3.02.
3.03	Articles of Incorporation of Golden Road Motor Inn, Inc. filed March 6, 1973; Certificate Amending Articles of Incorporation of Golden Road Motor Inn, Inc. filed August 29, 1973; and Certificate of Amendment of Articles of Incorporation filed April 5, 1984 are incorporated herein by reference from the Company's Form S-1 registration statement (SEC File 33-64556), Part II, Item 16, Exhibit 3.03.
3.04	Bylaws of Golden Road Motor Inn, Inc., adopted March 9, 1973 are incorporated herein by reference from the Company's Form S-1 registration statement (SEC File 33-64556), Part II, Item 16, Exhibit 3.04.
3.05	Amendment to Bylaws of Monarch Casino & Resort, Inc. adopted January 24, 1995 is incorporated herein by reference to the Company's Form 10-K report (SEC File 0-022088) for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2006, Exhibit 3.05.
4.01	Specimen Common Stock Certificate for the Common Stock of Monarch Casino & Resort, Inc. is incorporated herein by reference from the Company's Form S-1 registration statement (SEC File 33-4556), Part II, Item 16, Exhibit 4.01.
4.02	Amended and Restated Monarch Casino & Resort, Inc. 1993 Directors' Stock Option Plan is incorporated herein by reference to the Company's Form 10-K report (SEC File 0-022088) for the fiscal year ended December 31, 1998, Item 14(c), Exhibit 4.02.
4.03	Amended and Restated Monarch Casino & Resort, Inc. 1993 Executive Long-Term Incentive Plan is incorporated herein by reference to the Company's Form 10-K report (SEC File 0-22088) for the fiscal year ended December 31, 1997, Item 14(c), Exhibit 4.03.
4.04	Amended and Restated Monarch Casino & Resort, Inc. 1993 Employee Stock Option Plan is incorporated herein by reference to the Company's Form 10-K report (SEC File 0-22088) for the fiscal year ended December 31, 1997, Item 14(c), Exhibit 4.04.

- 4.05 Second Amendment to Monarch Casino & Resort, Inc. 1993 Directors' Stock Option Plan is incorporated herein by reference to the Company's Proxy Statement (SEC File 0-22088) in relation to the Company's 2003 Annual Meeting of Stockholders Exhibit A-1.
- 4.06 Second Amendment to Monarch Casino & Resort, Inc. 1993 Employee Stock Option Plan is incorporated herein by reference to the Company's Proxy Statement (SEC File 0-22088) in relation to the Company's 2003 Annual Meeting of Stockholders Exhibit A-2.
- 4.07 Second Amendment to Monarch Casino & Resort, Inc. 1993 Executive Long-Term Incentive Plan is incorporated herein by reference to the Company's Proxy Statement (SEC File 0-22088) in relation to the Company's 2003 Annual Meeting of Stockholders Exhibit A-3.
- 4.08 Third Amendment to Monarch Casino & Resort, Inc. 1993 Employee Stock Option Plan is incorporated herein by reference to the Company's Form 10-K report (SEC File 0-022088) for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2006, Exhibit 4.08.
- 4.09 Third Amendment to Monarch Casino & Resort, Inc. 1993 Executive Long-Term Incentive Plan is incorporated herein by reference to the Company's Form 10-K report (SEC File 0-022088) for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2006, Exhibit 4.09.
- 10.01 Non-standardized 401(k) Plan Adoption Agreement between Monarch Casino & Resort, Inc. and Smith Barney Shearson dated November 7, 1995 is incorporated herein by reference to the Company's Form 10-K report (SEC File 0-22088) for the fiscal year ended December 31, 1995, Item 14(a)(3), Exhibit 10.21.
- 10.02 Trademark Agreement between Golden Road Motor Inn, Inc. and Atlantis Lodge, Inc., dated February 3, 1996 is incorporated herein by reference to the Company's Form 10-K report (SEC File 0-22088) for the fiscal year ended December 31, 1995, Item 14(a)(3), Exhibit 10.23.
- 10.03 Credit Agreement, dated as of February 20, 2004, among Golden Road Motor Inn, Inc. as Borrower, Monarch Casino & Resort, Inc., as Guarantor, the Lenders as defined therein, and Wells Fargo Bank as administrative and collateral Agent for the Lenders and Swingline Lender is incorporated herein by reference to the Company's Form 8-K report (SEC File 0-22088) dated March 8, 2004, Exhibit 99.1.
- 10.04 Lease Agreement and Option to Purchase dated as of January 29, 2004, between Golden Road Motor Inn, Inc. as Lessee and Biggest Little Investments, L.P. as Lessor is incorporated herein by reference to the Company's Form 10-K (SEC File 0-22088) dated March 11, 2004, Exhibit 10.18.
- 10.05 First Amendment, dated as of February 8, 2007, to the Credit Agreement, dated as of February 20, 2004, among Golden Road Motor Inn, Inc. as Borrower, Monarch Casino & Resort, Inc., as Guarantor, the Lenders as defined therein, and Wells Fargo Bank as administrative and collateral Agent for the Lenders and Swingline Lender is incorporated herein by reference to the Company's Form 10-K report (SEC File 0-022088) for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2006, Exhibit 10.05.
- 21.01 Amended and Restated List of Subsidiaries of Monarch Casino & Resort, Inc.
- 23.1 Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm
- 31.1 Certification pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 31.2 Certification pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

- 32.1 Certification pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 is filed as an exhibit to this Form 10-K.
- 32.2 Certification pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 is filed as an exhibit to this Form 10-K.
-

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) 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.

MONARCH CASINO & RESORT, INC.
(Registrant)

Date: March 14, 2008
Ronald Rowan, Chief Financial Officer
and Treasurer (Principal Financial
Officer and Duly Authorized Officer)

By: /s/ RONALD ROWAN

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

Signature	Title	Date
/S/ JOHN FARAH I Directors John Farahi	Co-Chairman of the Board of Executive Officer) and Director	March 14, 2008
/S/ BOB FARAH I Directors, Bob Farahi	Co-Chairman of the Board of President, Secretary and Director	March 14, 2008
/S/ RONALD ROWAN Treasurer Ronald Rowan	Chief Financial Officer and (Principal Financial Officer and Principal Accounting Officer)	March 14, 2008
/S/ CHARLES W. SCHARER 14, 2008 Charles W. Scharer	Director	March
/S/ CRAIG. F. SULLIVAN Director Craig F. Sullivan		March 14, 2008

/S/ RONALD R. ZIDECK

Director

March 14, 2008

Ronald R. Zideck

EXHIBIT 21.01

LIST OF SUBSIDIARIES OF MONARCH CASINO & RESORT, INC.

Subsidiary	Jurisdiction of Incorporation	Percentage Ownership
Golden Road Motor Inn, Inc., dba Atlantis Casino Resort	Nevada	100%
Golden Town, Inc.	Nevada	100%
High Desert Sunshine, Inc.	Nevada	100%

EXHIBIT 23.1

CONSENT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

We consent to the incorporation by reference in the Registration Statement (Form S-8 Nos. 333-144254, 333-144253, 333-144252, 333-85412, 333-85418, and 333-85420) pertaining to the Directors' Stock Option Plan, Executive Long-Term Stock Incentive Plan, and Employee Stock Option Plan of Monarch Casino & Resort, Inc. of our reports dated March 12, 2008, with respect to the consolidated financial statements and schedule of Monarch Casino & Resort, and the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting of Monarch Casino & Resort, included in the Annual Report (Form 10-K) for the year ended December 31, 2007.

/s/ Ernst & Young LLP

Las Vegas, NV
March 12, 2008

EXHIBIT 31.1

CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 302 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002

I, Ronald Rowan, Chief Financial Officer of Monarch Casino & Resort, Inc.,
certify that:

1. I have reviewed this annual report on Form 10-K of Monarch Casino & Resort, Inc. a Nevada Corporation;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f), for the registrant and have:
 - a. Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
 - b. Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
 - c. Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
 - d. Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter that has materially affected or is reasonably likely to materially affect the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
 - a. All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
 - b. Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal controls over financial reporting.

Date: March 14, 2008

By: /s/ Ronald Rowan

Ronald Rowan
Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer

EXHIBIT 31.2

CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 302 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002

I, John Farahi, Chief Executive Officer of Monarch Casino & Resort, Inc.,
certify that:

1. I have reviewed this annual report on Form 10-K of Monarch Casino & Resort, Inc. a Nevada Corporation;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f), for the registrant and have:
 - a. Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
 - b. Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
 - c. Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
 - d. Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter that has materially affected or is reasonably likely to materially affect the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
 - a. All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
 - b. Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal controls over financial reporting.

Date: March 14, 2008

By: /s/ John Farahi
John Farahi
Chief Executive Officer

EXHIBIT 32.1

18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350, AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 906 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002

I, Ronald Rowan, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer of Monarch Casino & Resort, Inc. (the “Company”), certify, pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, that:

1. The Annual Report on Form 10-K of the Company for the annual period ended December 31, 2007 (the “Report”) fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78m); and
2. The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

/S/ RONALD ROWAN

Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer

March 14, 2008

EXHIBIT 32.2

CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO 18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350, AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 906 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002

I, John Farahi, Chief Executive Officer of Monarch Casino & Resort, Inc. (the “Company”), certify, pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, that:

3. The Annual Report on Form 10-K of the Company for the annual period ended December 31, 2007 (the “Report”) fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78m); and
4. The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

/S/ JOHN FARAHI

John Farahi

Chief Executive Officer

March 14, 2008