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OUTBACK STEAKHOUSE INC

Form 10-Q

November 14, 2001

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

FORM 10-Q

(Mark One)

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

For the quarterly period ended September 30, 2001

or

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

For the transition period from _____ to

Commission File Number: 1-15935

OUTBACK STEAKHOUSE, INC.(R)

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

DELAWARE

59-3061413

(State or other
jurisdiction of
incorporation or
organization)

(IRS Employer
Identification No.)

2202 NORTH WESTSHORE BOULEVARD, 5TH 33607
FLOOR, TAMPA, FLORIDA

(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

(813) 282-1225

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

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 the number of shares outstanding of each of the issuer's classes of common stock, as of the latest practicable date. As of November 9, 2001, there were approximately 76,524,690 shares of Common Stock, \$.01 par value outstanding.

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OUTBACK STEAKHOUSE, INC.(R)

PART I: FINANCIAL INFORMATION

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Item 1. Financial Statements

The accompanying unaudited consolidated financial statements have been prepared by Outback Steakhouse, Inc.(R) and Affiliates (the "Company") pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission. Accordingly, they do not include all of the information and footnotes required by generally accepted accounting principles for complete financial statements. In the opinion of the Company, all adjustments (consisting only of normal recurring entries) necessary for the fair presentation of the Company's results of operations, financial position and cash flows for the periods presented have been included.

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OUTBACK STEAKHOUSE, INC.(R)
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS
(in thousands)

	September 30, 2001 (unaudited)	December 31, 2000
ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents...	\$ 67,513	\$ 131,604
Inventories.....	31,716	27,871
Other current assets.....	27,565	22,572
Total current assets.....	126,794	182,047
PROPERTY, FIXTURES AND EQUIPMENT, NET	776,298	693,975
INVESTMENTS IN AND ADVANCES TO UNCONSOLIDATED AFFILIATES, NET	41,666	29,655
OTHER ASSETS.....	150,009	116,858
	\$1,094,767	\$1,022,535
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable.....	\$ 30,804	\$ 37,162
Sales taxes payable.....	10,979	11,580
Accrued expenses.....	56,693	46,266
Unearned revenue.....	9,227	54,458
Income taxes payable.....		13,621
Current portion of long-term debt.....	10,993	4,958
Total current liabilities...	118,696	168,045
DEFERRED INCOME TAXES.....	15,504	14,382
LONG-TERM DEBT.....	12,826	11,678
OTHER LONG-TERM LIABILITIES.....	24,875	4,000
Total liabilities.....	171,901	198,105
INTEREST OF MINORITY PARTNERS IN CONSOLIDATED PARTNERSHIPS...	19,251	16,840
STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Common stock, \$0.01 par value, 200,000 shares authorized; 78,514 and 78,514 shares issued; and 76,610 and 76,632 outstanding as of September 30, 2001 and December 31, 2000, respectively	785	785

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Additional paid-in capital..	218,124	214,541
Retained earnings.....	731,658	638,383
	-----	-----
	950,567	853,709
Less treasury stock, 1,904 shares and 1,882 shares at September 30, 2001 and December 31, 2000, respectively, at cost.....	(46,952)	(46,119)
	-----	-----
Total stockholders' equity..	903,615	807,590
	-----	-----
	\$ 1,094,767	\$ 1,022,535
	=====	=====

See notes to unaudited consolidated financial statements.

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OUTBACK STEAKHOUSE, INC. (R)
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME
(in thousands except per share data, unaudited)

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	September 30,		September 30,	
	2001	2000	2001	2000
REVENUES	-----	-----	-----	-----
Restaurant sales.....	\$ 524,360	\$ 480,239	\$1,575,323	\$1,418,630
Other revenues.....	4,685	4,863	13,819	12,889
	-----	-----	-----	-----
TOTAL REVENUES	529,045	485,102	1,589,142	1,431,519
COSTS AND EXPENSES:	-----	-----	-----	-----
Cost of sales.....	205,339	184,918	605,807	535,389
Labor & other related.....	127,114	115,570	378,014	335,953
Other restaurant operating.....	107,122	91,986	313,813	268,987
Depreciation & amortization....	17,529	14,436	50,318	42,463
General & administrative.....	18,835	18,306	58,575	56,439
Provision for impaired assets and restaurant closings.....	2,047		2,047	
Contribution for "Dine Out for America".....	7,000		7,000	
Income from operations of unconsolidated affiliates..	(1,108)	(697)	(3,086)	(1,766)
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total costs and expenses.	483,878	424,519	1,412,488	1,237,465
INCOME FROM OPERATIONS.....	45,167	60,583	176,654	194,054
OTHER INCOME (EXPENSE), NET.....	(608)	631	(1,568)	4
INTEREST INCOME (EXPENSE), NET...	885	1,223	2,879	3,523
INCOME BEFORE ELIMINATION OF MINORITY PARTNERS' INTEREST AND INCOME TAXES.....	45,444	62,437	177,965	197,581
ELIMINATION OF MINORITY PARTNERS' INTEREST.....	6,246	7,933	23,902	27,350
	-----	-----	-----	-----
INCOME BEFORE PROVISION FOR INCOME TAXES.....	39,198	54,504	154,063	170,231
PROVISION FOR INCOME TAXES.....	13,798	19,121	54,230	60,784
	-----	-----	-----	-----
NET INCOME.....	\$ 25,400	\$ 35,383	\$ 99,833	\$ 109,447
	=====	=====	=====	=====
BASIC EARNINGS PER COMMON SHARE..	\$ 0.33	\$ 0.46	\$ 1.30	\$ 1.41
BASIC WEIGHTED AVERAGE NUMBER OF COMMON SHARES OUTSTANDING	76,786	77,629	76,622	77,743
	=====	=====	=====	=====
DILUTED EARNINGS PER COMMON SHARE	\$ 0.32	\$ 0.45	\$ 1.28	\$ 1.38
DILUTED WEIGHTED AVERAGE NUMBER OF	=====	=====	=====	=====

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COMMON SHARES OUTSTANDING	78,524	79,036	78,182	79,593
	=====	=====	=====	=====

See notes to unaudited consolidated financial statements.

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OUTBACK STEAKHOUSE, INC. (R) CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (in thousands, unaudited)

	Nine Months Ended	
	September 30,	
	2001	2000
	-----	-----
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Net income.....	\$ 99,833	\$ 109,447
Adjustments to reconcile net income to cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation.....	45,528	38,745
Amortization.....	4,790	3,718
Provision for impaired assets and restaurant closings.....	2,047	
Minority partners' interest in consolidated partnerships' income.	23,902	27,350
Income from unconsolidated affiliates	(3,086)	(1,766)
Change in assets and liabilities:		
(Increase) decrease in inventories	(3,845)	3,931
(Increase) decrease in other current assets.....	(3,493)	132
Decrease (increase) in other assets	1,288	(19,638)
Increase in accounts payable, sales taxes payable, and accrued expenses.....	2,647	8,116
Decrease in unearned revenue.....	(45,231)	(35,468)
(Decrease) increase in income taxes payable.....	(13,621)	3,769
Increase in deferred income taxes.	1,122	5,780
Decrease in other long-term liabilities.....	(1,125)	(500)
	-----	-----
Net cash provided by operating activities.....	110,756	143,616
	-----	-----
Cash flows used in investing activities:		
Capital expenditures.....	(143,645)	(96,762)
Change in investments in and advances to unconsolidated affiliates.....	(8,925)	(7,858)
	-----	-----
Net cash used in investing activities.....	(152,570)	(104,620)
Cash flows from financing activities:		
Proceeds from issuance of common stock		9,944
Proceeds from issuance of long-term debt	16,758	10,000
Proceeds from minority partners' contributions.....	5,781	1,000
Distributions to minority partners..	(27,272)	(28,755)
Repayments of long-term debt.....	(9,575)	(1,579)
Payments for purchase of treasury stock.....	(23,313)	(34,107)
Proceeds from reissuance of treasury stock.....	15,344	219
	-----	-----
Net cash used in financing		

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activities.....	(22,277)	(43,278)
	-----	-----
Net (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents.....	(64,091)	(4,282)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period.....	131,604	92,623
	-----	-----
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period.....	\$ 67,513	\$ 88,341
	=====	=====
Supplemental disclosures of cash flow information:		
Cash paid for interest.....	\$ 582	\$ 30
Cash paid for income taxes.....	\$ 69,598	\$ 45,548
Supplemental disclosures of non-cash items:		
Assets/liabilities of businesses transferred under contractual arrangements.....	\$ 22,000	
Purchase of minority partners' interest.....	\$ 4,161	\$ 3,760

See notes to unaudited consolidated financial statements.

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OUTBACK STEAKHOUSE, INC.(R)
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(UNAUDITED)

1. Basis of Presentation

The accompanying unaudited consolidated financial statements have been prepared by Outback Steakhouse, Inc.(R) (the "Company") pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission. Accordingly, they do not include all the information and footnotes required by generally accepted accounting principles for complete financial statements. In the opinion of the Company, all adjustments (consisting only of normal recurring entries) necessary for the fair presentation of the Company's results of operations, financial position and cash flows for the periods presented have been included.

Certain amounts shown in the 2000 consolidated financial statements have been reclassified to conform to the 2001 presentation. These reclassifications did not have an effect on total assets, total liabilities, stockholders' equity or net income.

The results of operations for the interim periods are not necessarily indicative of the results to be expected for the full year.

The December 31, 2000 consolidated balance sheet has been derived from the audited consolidated financial statements but does not include all of the disclosures required by generally accepted accounting principles. It is suggested that these financial statements be read in conjunction with the financial statements and financial notes thereto included in the Company's 2000 Annual Report.

2. Other Current Assets

Other current assets consisted of the following (in thousands):

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	September 30, 2001 (unaudited)	December 31, 2000
	-----	-----
Deposits (including income tax deposits).....	\$ 4,452	\$ 1,543
Accounts receivable.....	5,889	5,549
Accounts receivable franchisees...	4,479	5,100
Prepaid expenses.....	9,832	8,315
Other current assets.....	2,913	2,065
	-----	-----
	\$ 27,565	\$ 22,572
	=====	=====

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OUTBACK STEAKHOUSE, INC. (R)
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(UNAUDITED)

3. Property, Fixtures and Equipment, Net
Property, fixtures and equipment consisted of the following (in thousands):

	September 30, 2001 (unaudited)	December 31, 2000
	-----	-----
Land.....	\$ 153,533	\$ 135,710
Buildings & building improvements.....	362,639	322,078
Furniture & fixtures.....	94,273	82,347
Equipment.....	224,210	212,713
Leasehold improvements...	175,856	139,426
Construction in progress..	38,691	32,360
Accumulated depreciation..	(272,904)	(230,659)
	-----	-----
	\$ 776,298	\$ 693,975
	=====	=====

4. Other Assets
Other assets consisted of the following (in thousands):

	September 30, 2001 (unaudited)	December 31, 2000
	-----	-----
Intangible assets, net (including liquor licenses).....	\$ 81,702	\$ 77,329
Other assets.....	33,432	39,529
Assets of business transferred under contractual arrangement.....	15,500	
Deferred license fee.....	19,375	
	-----	-----
	\$ 150,009	\$116,858
	=====	=====

In January 2001, the Company entered into a ten year licensing agreement with an entity owned by minority interest owners of certain non-restaurant operations (referred to in some Company literature as Outback Sports). The licensing agreement transferred the right and license to use certain assets of these non-restaurant operations. License fees payable over the term of

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the agreement total approximately \$22,000,000, of which \$20,875,000 is outstanding and consists of \$19,375,000 included in "Other Assets" and the current portion of \$1,500,000 included in "Other Current Assets". The net book value of these assets was approximately \$15,500,000 and was reclassified from the line item entitled "Property, Fixtures and Equipment" to "Other Assets". The corresponding long-term liability is included in the line item entitled "Other Long Term Liabilities". The Company has deferred the gain associated with the transaction until such time as the amounts due under the licensing agreement are realized. See Note 7 of Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements. 7 of 28

OUTBACK STEAKHOUSE, INC. (R)
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(UNAUDITED)

5. Long-term Debt
Long-term debt consisted of the following (in thousands):

	September 30, 2001 (unaudited)	December 31, 2000
	-----	-----
Revolving line of credit, interest at 3.67% and 7.16% at September 30, 2001 and December 31, 2000, respectively....	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000
Other notes payable, uncollateralized, Interest rates ranging from 5.63% to 7.99%.....	13,819	6,623
Notes payable to corporation, collateralized by real estate, interest at 9.0%.....		13
	-----	-----
	23,819	16,636
Less current portion.....	10,993	4,958
	-----	-----
Long-term debt.....	\$ 12,826	\$ 11,678
	=====	=====

The Company has an uncollateralized revolving line of credit that permits borrowing up to a maximum of \$125,000,000 at rates ranging from 57.5 to 95.0 basis points over the 30, 60, 90 or 180 day London Interbank Offered Rate ("LIBOR") (2.55% to 2.66% at September 30, 2001 and 6.20% to 6.56% at December 31, 2000). At September 30, 2001 and December 31, 2000 the unused portion of the revolving line of credit was \$115,000,000. The line matures in December 2004.

The Company has a \$15,000,000 uncollateralized line of credit bearing interest at rates ranging from 57.5 to 95.0 basis points over LIBOR. Approximately \$4,350,000 and \$3,110,000 of the line of credit was committed for the issuance of letters of credit at September 30, 2001 and December 31, 2000, respectively. The remaining \$10,650,000 is available to the Company.

The Company has a \$10,000,000 uncollateralized line of credit to support the Company's international operations. As of September 30, 2001 and December 31, 2000, the outstanding balance was approximately \$9,640,000 and \$4,323,000, respectively.

The Company is the guarantor of an uncollateralized line of credit, maturing in December 2004, that permits borrowing of up

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to a maximum of \$35,000,000 for one of its franchisees. At September 30, 2001 and December 31, 2000, the balance on the line of credit was approximately \$24,754,000 and \$22,470,000, respectively.

The Company is the guarantor of an uncollateralized line of credit, maturing December 2003, that permits borrowing of up to a maximum of \$12,000,000 for one of its joint venture partners. At September 30, 2001 and December 31, 2000, the outstanding balance was approximately \$12,000,000 and \$6,552,000, respectively.

The Company is the guarantor of bank loans made to certain franchisees. At September 30, 2001 and December 31, 2000, the outstanding balance on the loans was approximately \$491,000 and \$670,000, respectively.

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OUTBACK STEAKHOUSE, INC. (R)
 NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
 (UNAUDITED)

5. Long-term Debt (continued)

The Company is the guarantor of up to approximately \$9,445,000 of a \$68,000,000 note for an unconsolidated affiliate in which the Company has a 22.22% equity interest. At September 30, 2001 and December 31, 2000, the outstanding balance on the note was approximately \$68,000,000 and \$65,000,000, respectively.

See "Liquidity and Capital Resources" in Item 2, "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations."

6. Accrued Expenses

Accrued expenses consisted of the following (in thousands):

	September 30, 2001 (unaudited)	December 31, 2000
	-----	-----
Accrued payroll and other compensation.....	\$ 15,587	\$ 15,722
Accrued insurance.....	12,203	11,012
Accrued property taxes.....	8,334	6,129
Other accrued expenses.....	20,569	13,403
	-----	-----
	\$ 56,693	\$ 46,266
	=====	=====

7. Other Long Term Liabilities

Other long term liabilities consisted of the following (in thousands):

	September 30, 2001 (unaudited)	December 31, 2000
	-----	-----
Accrued insurance.....	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000
Other deferred liability..	20,875	
	-----	-----
	\$ 24,875	\$ 4,000
	=====	=====

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In January 2001, the Company entered into a ten year licensing agreement with an entity owned by minority interest owners of certain non-restaurant operations. The licensing agreement transferred the right and license to use certain assets of these non-restaurant operations. License fees payable over the term of the agreement total approximately \$22,000,000 of which \$20,875,000 is outstanding. The Company has deferred the gain associated with the transaction until such time as the amounts due under the licensing agreement are realized. The corresponding long-term asset is included in the line item entitled "Other Assets". See Note 4 of Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements.

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OUTBACK STEAKHOUSE, INC.(R)
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(UNAUDITED)

8. Recently Issued Financial Accounting Standards
"Business Combinations" and "Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets"

On June 30, 2001, the Financial Accounting Standards Board finalized FAS 141, "Business Combinations", and FAS 142, "Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets". FAS 141 requires all business combinations initiated after June 30, 2001, to be accounted for using the purchase method of accounting. With the adoption of FAS 142 effective January 1, 2002, goodwill is no longer subject to amortization. Rather, goodwill will be subject to at least an annual assessment for impairment by applying a fair-value-based test. Under the new rules, an acquired intangible asset should be separately recognized if the benefit of the intangible asset is obtained through contractual or other legal rights, or if the intangible asset can be sold, transferred, licensed, rented, or exchanged regardless of the acquirer's intent to do so. These intangible assets will be required to be amortized over their useful lives.

As of September 30, 2001, the Company had approximately \$74,000,000 of goodwill, of which is net of accumulated amortization of \$14,400,000. Adoption of FAS 142 effective January 1, 2002 is estimated to result in the elimination of approximately \$5,000,000 to \$5,500,000 of annual amortization, subject to the identification of separately recognized intangibles which would continue to be amortized under the new rules. The Company is beginning the process of performing the initial impairment testing of all goodwill and has not yet quantified any initial impairment charge that might result upon adoption of FAS 142.

9. Subsequent Events

On September 26, 2001, the Company announced that it was participating in a fund raising event on October 11, 2001, with 100% of that day's sales proceeds benefiting the victims and families of the victims of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. On October 11, 2001, the Company participated in the "Dine Out for America" event and the Company's sales for that day were approximately \$7,000,000. The Company has recorded a pretax charge to earnings of \$7,000,000 for the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2001.

Subsequent to September 30, 2001, the Company entered into an agreement to develop and operate Bonefish Grill restaurants.

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Under the terms of the Bonfish Grill agreement, the Company purchased the system for approximately \$1,500,000. In addition, the interest in three existing Bonfish Grills is being contributed to the partnership and in exchange the Company will contribute the first \$7,500,000 of future development costs.

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OUTBACK STEAKHOUSE, INC.(R)

ITEM 2. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Results of Operations

The following table sets forth, for the periods indicated, (i) the percentages which the items in the Company's Consolidated Statements of Income bear to total revenues, or restaurant sales as indicated, and (ii) selected operating data:

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2001	2000	2001	2000
REVENUES				
Restaurant sales.....	99.1%	99.0%	99.1%	99.1%
Other revenues.....	0.9	1.0	0.9	0.9
TOTAL REVENUES.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
COSTS AND EXPENSES:				
Cost of sales (1).....	39.2	38.5	38.5	37.7
Labor & other related (1).	24.2	24.1	24.0	23.7
Other restaurant operating (1)	20.4	19.2	19.9	19.0
Depreciation & amortization	3.3	3.0	3.2	3.0
General & administrative..	3.6	3.8	3.7	3.9
Provision for impaired assets and restaurant closings.	0.4		0.1	
Contribution for "Dine Out for America".....	1.3		0.4	
Income from operations of unconsolidated affiliates	(0.2)	(0.1)	(0.2)	(0.1)
Total costs and expenses	91.5	87.5	88.9	86.4
INCOME FROM OPERATIONS.....	8.5	12.5	11.1	13.6
OTHER INCOME (EXPENSE), NET.	(0.1)	0.1	(0.1)	*
INTEREST INCOME.....	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2
INCOME BEFORE ELIMINATION OF MINORITY PARTNERS' INTEREST AND INCOME TAXES.....	8.6	12.9	11.2	13.8
ELIMINATION OF MINORITY PARTNERS' INTEREST.....	1.2	1.6	1.5	1.9
INCOME BEFORE PROVISION FOR INCOME TAXES.....	7.4	11.2	9.7	11.9
PROVISION FOR INCOME TAXES..	2.6	3.9	3.4	4.3
NET INCOME.....	4.8%	7.3%	6.3%	7.6%

(*) Percentages are less than 1/10 of one percent of total revenues.

(1) As a percentage of restaurant sales.

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Results of Operations (continued)

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	September 30,		September 30,	
	2001	2000	2001	2000
System-wide sales (millions of dollars):				
Outback Steakhouse restaurants				
Company owned and consolidated affiliates.....	\$461	\$432	\$1,390	\$1,278
Domestic franchised and joint venture.....	91	81	272	239
International franchised and joint venture.....	21	19	61	54
Total.....	573	532	1,723	1,571
Carrabba's Italian Grills				
Company owned and consolidated affiliates.....	51	42	149	127
Joint venture.....	18	13	52	35
Total.....	69	55	201	162
Other restaurants				
Company owned and consolidated affiliates.....	12	6	36	13
Joint venture.....	1		1	
Total.....	13	6	37	13
System-wide total.....	\$655	\$593	\$1,961	\$1,746

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Results of Operations (continued)

	September 30,	
	2001	2000
Number of restaurants (at end of the period):		
Outback Steakhouses		
Company owned and consolidated affiliates..	556	508
Domestic franchised and joint venture.....	111	101
International franchised and joint venture.	47	37
Total.....	714	646
Carrabba's Italian Grills		
Company owned and consolidated affiliates..	70	60
Joint venture.....	24	18
Total.....	94	78
Fleming's Prime Steakhouse and Wine Bars		
Company owned and consolidated affiliates..	7	3
Roy's		
Company owned and consolidated affiliates..	8	2
Joint venture.....	1	

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Total.....	9	2
Zazarac	---	---
Company owned.....		1
Lee Roy Selmon's	---	---
Company owned.....	1	---
System-wide total.....	825	730
	===	===

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Three months ended September 30, 2001 and 2000

Revenues. Total revenues increased by 9.1% to \$529,045,000 during the third quarter of 2001 as compared with \$485,102,000 in the same period in 2000. The increase was attributable to the opening of new restaurants after September 30, 2000, menu price increases at Outback Steakhouse and Carrabba's Italian Grills after September 2000, and per store revenue increase during the quarter of 5.6% at Carrabba's Italian Grills, partially offset by per store revenue decrease of 0.7% at Outback Steakhouse. The following table depicts additional activities that influenced the period to period changes in revenues:

	Three Months Ended September 30,	
	2001	2000
Average unit volumes (weekly):		
Outback Steakhouses.....	\$63,946	\$64,488
Carrabba's Italian Grills.....	57,771	54,700
Per person check averages:		
Outback Steakhouses.....	\$18.30	\$17.93
Carrabba's Italian Grills.....	19.88	19.49
Year to year percentage change:		
Same-store sales:		
Outback Steakhouses.....	(0.7)%	7.0%
Carrabba's Italian Grills.....	5.6%	10.5%
Same-store customer counts:		
Outback Steakhouses.....	(2.3)%	3.9%
Carrabba's Italian Grills.....	3.6%	5.3%

Costs and expenses. Costs of sales, consisting of food and beverage costs, as a percentage of restaurant sales, increased in the third quarter of 2001 to 39.2% of restaurant sales as compared with 38.5% in the same period in 2000. The increase was attributable to commodity cost increases in produce and dairy, particularly butter, partially offset by higher menu prices and favorable alcoholic beverage costs.

Labor and other related expenses include all direct and indirect labor costs incurred in restaurant operations. Labor expenses increased as a percentage of restaurant sales by 0.1% to 24.2% in the third quarter of 2001 as compared with 24.1% in the same period in 2000. The increase resulted from higher hourly wage rates, a new hourly employee bonus program and enhanced employee health insurance benefits. The increase was partially offset by higher average unit volumes at Carrabba's Italian Grills.

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Other restaurant operating expenses include all other unit-level operating costs, the major components of which are operating supplies, rent, repairs and maintenance, advertising expenses, utilities, pre-opening costs, and other occupancy costs. A substantial portion of these expenses are fixed or indirectly variable. These costs increased by 1.2% of restaurant sales to 20.4% in the third quarter of 2001, as compared with 19.2% in the same period in 2000. The increase was attributable to higher utility and natural gas prices, expenses associated with opening new restaurant formats and liability insurance costs. The increase was also attributable to an increase in the proportion of new format restaurants (Fleming's, Roy's and Selmon's) and international Outback Steakhouses in operation which have higher average restaurant operating expenses than domestic Outback Steakhouses and Carrabba's Italian Grills. The increase was partially offset by lower advertising expense and higher average unit volumes for Carrabba's Italian Grills which reduced the fixed and indirectly variable costs as a percentage of restaurant sales.

Depreciation and amortization costs increased by 0.3% of total revenues to 3.3% in the third quarter of 2001, as compared with 3.0% in the same period in 2000. The increase resulted primarily from additional depreciation related to new unit development, "Take-away" room additions, new restaurant formats which have higher average construction costs than Outback Steakhouse and Carrabba's Italian Grills and additional amortization of goodwill associated with the purchase of ownership interests from certain minority partners, primarily area operating partners.

General and administrative costs increased by \$529,000 to \$18,835,000 in the third quarter of 2001 compared with \$18,306,000 during the same period in 2000. This increase resulted from an increase in overall administrative costs associated with operating additional domestic and international Outback Steakhouses, Carrabba's Italian Grills, Fleming's Prime Steakhouses and Roy's as well as costs associated with the development of new restaurant formats and other affiliated businesses.

Provision for impaired assets and restaurant closings. In the third quarter of 2001, the Company recorded a pretax charge to earnings of \$2,047,000 which is primarily related to the costs associated with the closing of the Company's two Zazarac restaurants.

Contribution for "Dine Out for America". This line item represents the Company's commitment, announced on September 26, 2001, to contribute 100% of its sales proceeds from Thursday October 11, 2001 to the victims and families of the victims of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. The Company's sales on October 11, 2001 for the "Dine Out for America" fund raising event totaled approximately \$7,000,000 and accordingly the Company has recorded a pretax charge to earnings of \$7,000,000 during three months ended September 30, 2001.

Income from operations of unconsolidated affiliates represents the Company's portion of the income from Outback Steakhouses and Carrabba's Italian Grills operated as development joint ventures. Income from the development joint

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ventures was \$1,108,000 during the third quarter of 2001 as compared with income of \$697,000 during the same period in 2000. This increase was attributable to additional stores operating as development joint ventures in the third quarter of 2001 and to an increase in average unit volumes.

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Income from operations. As a result of the increase in revenues, the changes in the relationship between revenues and expenses discussed above and the opening of new restaurants, income from operations decreased by \$15,416,000, to \$45,167,000, in the third quarter of 2001 as compared with \$60,583,000 in the same period in 2000.

Other income (expense), net. Other income (expense) includes the net of revenues and expenses from non-restaurant operations. Net other expense was \$608,000 during the third quarter of 2001 as compared with net other income of \$631,000 in the same period in 2000. The increase in other expense resulted from the elimination of the Company's interest in Outback Sports (see Notes 4 and 7 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements) and increased costs associated with other non-restaurant operations during the third quarter of 2001.

Interest income (expense), net. Interest income was \$885,000 during the third quarter of 2001 as compared with interest income of \$1,223,000 in the same period in 2000. The period to period change in interest income resulted from lower average cash balances and lower interest rates on short term investments during the third quarter of 2001 compared with the same period in 2000.

Elimination of minority partners' interests. The allocation of minority partners' income included in this line item represents the portion of income from operations included in consolidated operating results attributable to the ownership interests of restaurant managers and area operating partners in Company owned restaurants and the ownership interests in certain other restaurants in which the Company is the majority owner. As a percentage of revenues, these allocations were 1.2% and 1.6% during the quarters ended September 30, 2001 and 2000 respectively. The decrease in the ratio is the result of the purchase of minority interests in 43 restaurants from area operating partners after September 30, 2000, the decrease in overall restaurant operating margins and the effect of the performance of the new restaurant formats.

Provision for income taxes. The provision for income taxes in the third quarter of both 2001 and 2000 reflected the expected income taxes due at federal statutory rates and state income tax rates, net of the federal benefit. The effective income tax rate was 35.2% during the third quarter of 2001 and was 35.1% during the third quarter of 2000.

Net income and earnings per share. Net income for the third quarter of 2001 was \$25,400,000 as compared with \$35,383,000 in the same period in 2000. Basic earnings per share decreased to \$0.33 during the third quarter of 2001 as compared with \$0.46 for the same period in 2000. Diluted earnings per share decreased to \$0.32 during the third quarter of 2001 as compared with \$0.45 for the same period in 2000.

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Nine months ended September 30, 2001 and 2000

Revenues. Total revenues increased by 11.0% to \$1,589,142,000 during the first nine months of 2001 as compared with \$1,431,519,000 in the same period in 2000. The increase was primarily attributable to the opening of new restaurants after September 30, 2000, menu price increases at Outback Steakhouse and Carrabba's Italian Grills and same store revenue increases during the first nine months of 2001 of 0.7% and 6.9% for Outback Steakhouse and Carrabba's Italian Grills, respectively. The following table depicts additional activities that influenced the period to period changes in revenues:

	Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2001	2000
Average unit volumes(weekly):		
Outback Steakhouses.....	\$65,887	\$65,250
Carrabba's Italian Grills.....	60,326	55,521
Per person check averages:		
Outback Steakhouses.....	\$18.42	\$17.81
Carrabba's Italian Grills.....	19.70	19.33
Year to year percentage change:		
Same-store sales:		
Outback Steakhouses.....	0.7%	7.0%
Carrabba's Italian Grills...	6.9%	11.6%
Same-store customer counts:		
Outback Steakhouses.....	(2.1)%	3.7%
Carrabba's Italian Grills...	5.2%	7.0%

Costs and expenses. Cost of sales as a percentage of restaurant sales, increased by 0.8% to 38.5% in the first nine months of 2001 as compared with 37.7% in the same period in 2000. The increase was attributable to increases in beef and dairy costs, particularly butter, partially offset by higher menu prices.

Labor and other related expenses increased as a percentage of restaurant sales by 0.3% to 24.0% in the first nine months of 2001 as compared with 23.7% in the same period in 2000. The increase resulted from higher hourly wage rates resulting from a competitive labor market, a new hourly employee bonus program and enhanced employee health insurance benefits. The increase was partially offset by higher unit volumes at Outback Steakhouse and Carrabba's Italian Grills.

Other restaurant operating expenses increased by 0.9% of restaurant sales to 19.9% in the first nine months of 2001 as compared with 19.0% in the same period in 2000. The increase was attributable to higher utility and natural gas prices and expenses associated with opening new restaurant formats. The increase was also attributable to an increase in the proportion of new format restaurants (Fleming's, Roy's, and Selmon's) and international Outback Steakhouses in operation, which have higher average restaurant operating expenses than domestic Outback Steakhouses and Carrabba's Italian Grills. The increase was partially offset by lower advertising expense and higher average unit volumes for both Outback Steakhouse and Carrabba's

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Italian Grills, which reduced the fixed and indirectly variable costs as a percentage of restaurant sales.

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Depreciation and amortization costs increased by 0.2% of total revenues to 3.2% in the first nine months of 2001, as compared with 3.0% in the same period in 2000. The increase resulted primarily from additional depreciation related to new unit development, "Take-away" room additions, new restaurant formats, which have higher average construction costs than Outback Steakhouse and Carrabba's Italian Grills and additional amortization of goodwill associated with the purchase of ownership interests from certain minority partners, primarily area operating partners.

General and administrative costs increased by \$2,136,000 to \$58,575,000 during the first nine months of 2001 as compared with \$56,439,000 during the same period in 2000. This increase resulted from an increase in overall administrative costs associated with operating additional domestic and international Outback Steakhouses, Carrabba's Italian Grills, Fleming's Prime Steakhouses and Roy's as well as costs associated with the development of new restaurants and other affiliated businesses.

Provision for impaired assets and restaurant closings. In the third quarter of 2001, the Company recorded a pretax charge to earnings of \$2,047,000 which is primarily related to the costs associated with the closing of the Company's two Zazarac restaurants.

Contribution for "Dine Out for America". This line item represents the Company's commitment, announced on September 26, 2001, to contribute 100% of its sales proceeds from Thursday October 11, 2001 to the victims and families of the victims of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. The Company's sales on October 11, 2001 for the "Dine Out for America" fund raising event totaled approximately \$7,000,000 and accordingly the Company has recorded a pretax charge to earnings of \$7,000,000 during the nine months ended September 30, 2001.

Income from operations of unconsolidated affiliates was \$3,086,000 in the first nine months of 2001 as compared with income of \$1,766,000 in the same period in 2000. This increase was attributable to additional stores operating as development joint ventures in the first nine months of 2001 and to an increase in average unit volumes.

Income from operations. As a result of the increase in revenues, the changes in the relationship between revenues and expenses discussed above and the opening of new restaurants, income from operations decreased by \$17,400,000, to \$176,654,000 in the first nine months of 2001 as compared with \$194,054,000 in the same period in 2000.

Other income (expense), net. Other income (expense) includes the net of revenues and expenses from non-restaurant operations. Net other expense was \$1,568,000 during the first nine months of 2001 as compared with net other income of \$4,000 in the same period in 2000. The increase in the net expense resulted from the elimination of the Company's interest in Outback Sports (see Notes 4 and 7 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements) and increased expenses in the first nine months associated with other non-restaurant operations.

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Interest income (expense), net. Interest income was \$2,879,000 during the first nine months of 2001 as compared with interest income of \$3,523,000 in the same period in 2000. The decrease in interest income resulted from lower average cash balances and lower interest rates on short term investments during the first nine months of 2001 compared with the same period in 2000.

Elimination of minority interests. As a percentage of revenues, these allocations were 1.5% and 1.9% during the nine months ended September 30, 2001 and 2000, respectively. The decrease in this ratio is the result of the purchase of minority interests in 43 restaurants from area operating partners after September 30, 2000, the decrease in overall restaurant operating margins and the effect of the performance at the new restaurant formats.

Provision for income taxes. The provision for income taxes in the first nine months of both 2001 and 2000 reflected the expected income taxes due at federal statutory rates and state income tax rates, net of the federal benefit. The effective income tax rate was 35.2% during the first nine months of 2001 and the effective income tax rate was 35.7% during the first nine months of 2000. The decrease in the effective tax rate resulted from tax savings associated with changes in the corporate state tax structure and an increase in FICA tip credits the Company was able to utilize in the first nine months of 2001.

Net income and earnings per common share. Net income for the first nine months of 2001 was \$99,833,000 as compared with net income of \$109,447,000 in the same period in 2000. Basic earnings per share decreased to \$1.30 during the first nine months of 2001, as compared with \$1.41 in the same period in 2000. Diluted earnings per share increased to \$1.28 during the first nine months of 2001, as compared with \$1.38 in the same period in 2000.

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Liquidity and Capital Resources

The following table presents a summary of the Company's cash flows from operating, investing and financing activities for the periods indicated (in thousands).

	Year Ended December 31, 2000 -----	Nine Months Ended September September 2001 2000 -----	September 2000 -----
Net cash provided by operating activities.....	\$239,546	\$110,756	\$143,616
Net cash used in investing activities.....	(145,819)	(152,570)	(104,620)
Net cash used in financing activities.....	(54,746)	(22,277)	(43,278)
	-----	-----	-----
Net increase (decrease) in Cash and cash equivalents.....	\$ 38,981 =====	\$ (64,091) =====	\$ (4,282) =====

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The Company requires capital principally for the development of new Company owned and joint venture restaurants. Capital expenditures totaled approximately \$139,893,000 for year ended December 31, 2000 and \$143,645,000 and \$96,762,000 during the first nine months of 2001 and 2000, respectively. The Company either leases its restaurants under operating leases for periods ranging from five to twenty years or purchases land and buildings where it is cost effective. The Company anticipates that 80% to 90% of the Company owned restaurants to be open in 2001 will be free-standing units.

The Company has formed joint ventures to develop Outback Steakhouses in Brazil and the Philippines. During the second quarter of 2001, the Company purchased three Outback Steakhouses in Puerto Rico and will also develop future Company owned Outback Steakhouses in Puerto Rico. The Company is also developing Company owned restaurants internationally in the Philippines and Korea.

In 1999, the Company entered into agreements to develop and operate Roy's Restaurants and Fleming's Prime Steakhouse and Wine Bars. Under the Fleming's agreement, the Company has committed to the first \$13,000,000 of future development costs, substantially all of which has been invested as of September 30, 2001.

At September 30, 2001, the Company had two uncollateralized lines of credit totaling \$140,000,000. Approximately \$4,350,000 is committed for the issuance of letters of credit. The Company also guarantees \$491,000 in loans made by banks to certain franchisees. As of September 30, 2001, the Company had drawn \$10,000,000 on the revolving line of credit to finance the development of new restaurants. The Company expects that its capital requirements through the end of 2001 will be met by cash flows from operations and, to the extent needed, advances on its line of credit. See Note 5 of Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements.

The Company has a \$10,000,000 uncollateralized line of credit to support the Company's international operations. As of September 30, 2001, the outstanding balance was approximately \$9,640,000.

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The Company is the guarantor of an uncollateralized line of credit that permits borrowing of up to a maximum of \$35,000,000, maturing in December 2004, for one of its franchisees. At September 30, 2001 and December 31, 2000, the balance on the line of credit was approximately \$24,754,000 and \$22,470,000, respectively. See Note 5 of Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements.

The Company is the guarantor of an uncollateralized line of credit that permits borrowing of up to a maximum of \$12,000,000, maturing December 2003, for one of its joint venture partners. At September 30, 2001, the outstanding balance was approximately \$12,000,000.

The Company is the guarantor of up to approximately \$9,445,000 of a \$68,000,000 note for an unconsolidated affiliate in which the Company has a 22.2% equity interest. At September 30, 2001 the outstanding balance on the note was approximately

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\$68,000,000.

On July 26, 2000, the Company's Board of Directors authorized a program to repurchase up to 4,000,000 shares of the Company's Common Stock. The timing, price, quantity and manner of the purchases will be made at the discretion of management and will depend upon market conditions. In addition, the Board of Directors also authorized a program to repurchase shares on a regular basis to offset shares issued as a result of stock option exercises. The Company will fund the repurchase program with available cash and bank credit facilities. As of September 30, 2001, under these authorizations the Company has repurchased approximately 2,914,000 shares of its Common Stock for approximately \$71,928,000.

OTHER

See Notes 4 and 7 of Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements for discussion of the Company's \$22,000,000 licensing agreement for use of the assets of some of its non-restaurant operations.

OUTLOOK

The following discussion of the Company's future operating results and expansion strategy and other statements in this report that are not historical statements constitute forward-looking statements that represent the Company's expectations or belief concerning future events and may be identified by words such as "believes," "anticipates," "expects," "plans," "should" and similar expressions. The Company's forward-looking statements are subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those stated or implied in the forward-looking statement. We have endeavored to identify the most significant factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those stated or implied in forward-looking statements in the section entitled "Cautionary Statement" below.

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In the Outlook portion of Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations in its Annual Report to the Securities and Exchange Commission on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2000, the Company provided guidance on the outlook for its businesses in 2001 and factors that may affect the Company's financial results. During the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2001, the Company noted factors affecting revenue trends. The Company's previous price increase guidance remains unchanged; however, due to a weaker than expected economy and the effect of the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, customer count trends have weakened relative to trends noted in the Form 10-K. To the extent to which customer count trends remain weak, the Company's revenues and operating results may be affected for the remainder of 2001. During the quarter ended and nine months ended September 30, 2001, the Company incurred higher Restaurant Operating Expenses and Cost of Sales as a result of higher utility, natural gas and dairy prices, respectively, than paid during the comparable period in 2000 and than anticipated in the Company's comments discussed above. To the extent to which the prices of these commodities remain at current levels, the

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Company's operating results may be affected for the remainder of 2001.

Future Operating Results.

As of the date of this report substantial uncertainty exists as to the strength of consumer spending as a result of the economic downturn and the effects of the reduction in travel and related expenditures following the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. The Company's revenue growth expectations summarized in the following paragraph assume that current spending trends do not worsen in the fourth quarter of 2001 or fiscal 2002. The Company's revenues and financial results in 2002 could vary significantly depending upon consumer and business spending trends.

2002 Revenue. The Company plans to grow revenues in 2002 by opening additional restaurants and increasing average unit volumes in Carrabba's Italian Grills. The Company's expansion plans are summarized in this section. Based upon current economic conditions, the Company is currently planning for average unit volumes for Outback Steakhouse to be flat during 2002 compared with 2001. At present, the Company is not planning on any price increases during 2002 for Outback Steakhouse. However, the Company will reevaluate Outback menu pricing periodically and may change prices as economic and commodity conditions dictate. The Company is currently planning for average unit volumes for Carrabba's Italian Grills to increase by approximately 3% to 4% during 2002. The Company is not planning any price increases during 2002 for Carrabba's Italian Grills. However, the Company will reevaluate Carrabba's menu pricing periodically and may change prices as economic and commodity conditions dictate.

2002 Cost of Revenue. Unusual conditions in the dairy markets during 2001 resulted in the Company incurring substantially higher butter costs than the historical norm. The Company's current financial plan does not anticipate a recurrence of these extraordinary conditions that occurred in the dairy markets in the second and third quarters of 2001. The Company is anticipating slightly favorable beef pricing in the second half of 2002 based on current discussions and negotiations with its beef suppliers. Accordingly, the Company expects its costs of goods sold to decrease as a percentage of sales in 2002 as compared with 2001. Although the total decrease is subject to several factors, the current expectation for the Company is for a decrease of approximately 0.3% to 0.5% of sales for the full year.

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2002 Labor Costs. During the last few years, the Company has experienced significant wage pressure resulting from a tight labor market. The Company expects the upward wage pressure to continue during 2002 but at a lower rate than 2001. The Company expects that as more of the new format restaurants (Roy's, Fleming's and Selmon's) are opened, that labor costs as a percentage of restaurant sales will increase because the labor costs as a percentage of sales at the new restaurant formats run at a higher rate than at Outback and Carrabba's Italian Grills. In addition, the new hourly employee bonus program and enhanced employee health insurance coverage will also continue the upward pressure on labor costs as a percentage of restaurant sales. As a result, the Company is currently planning for its labor costs to increase by 0.3% to 0.4% of restaurant sales.

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2002 Restaurant Operating Expenses. Other than new restaurant format expenses, the Company does not plan to take any actions that would result in material fluctuations in other restaurant operating expense. The Company anticipates a decrease in natural gas prices in 2002 as compared with 2001. Accordingly, the Company is planning on a reduction in natural gas costs of approximately 0.2% to 0.3% of restaurant sales. Costs incurred prior to the opening of new restaurants are included in this expense category. These preopening expenses total approximately \$150,000 for each Company owned and joint venture Outback Steakhouse, approximately \$195,000 for each Carrabba's Italian Grill, and approximately \$300,000 for each new Roy's and Fleming's Prime Steakhouse and Wine Bar. Restaurant operating expense ratios may vary materially from quarter to quarter depending on when units open. As a result of the planned openings of new restaurants, the preopening portion of restaurant operating expenses may increase by in 2002 by 0.1% to 0.2% of restaurant sales.

2002 Depreciation and Amortization. The Company expects depreciation to increase as it invests in new restaurants and improves existing restaurants. The Company estimates that its capital expenditures for the development of new restaurants will be approximately \$175,000,000 to \$190,000,000 in 2002. The Company estimates that the adoption of Statement of Financial Accounting Standard No. 142 "Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets" may result in the elimination of approximately \$5,000,000 to \$5,500,000 of annual amortization, subject to the identification of separately recognized intangibles which would continue to be amortized under the new rules.

2002 General and Administrative Expenses. Based upon its current plan, the Company expects that total general and administrative costs will increase by approximately 12% to 13% in 2002 compared with 2001.

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Expansion Strategy.

The Company's goal is to add new restaurants to the Outback system during the remainder of 2001. The following table presents a summary of the expected restaurant openings during the fourth quarter of 2001 and for the full year 2002:

	4th Quarter 2001	Full Year 2002
Outback Steakhouses - Domestic		
Company owned.....	14 to 16	40 to 45
Franchised or joint venture.....	2 to 4	5 to 6
Outback Steakhouses - International		
Company owned.....	2 to 3	10 to 15
Franchised or joint venture.....	1 to 2	1 to 2
Carrabba's Italian Grills		
Company owned.....	4 to 5	10 to 15
Joint venture.....	4 to 5	5 to 10
Fleming's Prime Steakhouse and Wine Bars		
Company owned.....	0	0

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Joint venture.....	4	4 to 5
Roy's		
Company owned.....	0	0
Joint venture.....	2 to 3	3 to 4
Selmon's		
Company owned.....	0	1
Cheeseburger in Paradise		
Joint venture.....	0	1
Bonefish Grill		
Joint venture.....	1	3 to 4

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Cautionary Statement

The foregoing Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations contains various "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Forward-looking statements represent the Company's expectations or belief concerning future events, including the following: any statements regarding future sales and gross profit percentages, any statements regarding the continuation of historical trends, and any statements regarding the sufficiency of the Company's cash balances and cash generated from operating and financing activities for the Company's future liquidity and capital resource needs. Without limiting the foregoing, the words "believes," "anticipates," "plans," "expects," and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements.

The Company's actual results could differ materially from those stated or implied in the forward-looking statements included in the discussion of future operating results and expansion strategy and elsewhere in this report as a result, among other things, of the following:

(i) The restaurant industry is a highly competitive industry with many well established competitors;

(ii) The Company's results can be impacted by changes in consumer tastes and the level of consumer acceptance of the Company's restaurant concepts; local, regional and national economic conditions; the seasonality of the Company's business; demographic trends; traffic patterns; consumer perception of food safety; employee availability; the cost of advertising and media; government actions and policies; inflation; and increases in various costs;

(iii) The Company's ability to expand is dependent upon various factors such as the availability of attractive sites for new restaurants, ability to obtain appropriate real estate sites at acceptable prices; ability to obtain all governmental permits including zoning approvals and liquor licenses on a timely basis, impact of government moratoriums or approval processes, which could result in significant delays, ability to obtain all necessary contractors and subcontractors, union activities such as picketing and hand billing that could delay construction, the ability to generate or borrow funds, the ability to negotiate suitable lease terms, and the ability to recruit and train skilled management and restaurant employees;

(iv) Price and availability of commodities, including, but not

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limited to, such items as beef, chicken, shrimp, pork, dairy, potatoes and onions are subject to fluctuation and could increase or decrease more than the Company expects; and/or

(v) Weather and acts of God could result in construction delays and also adversely affect the results of one or more stores for an indeterminate amount of time.

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QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

The Company is exposed to market risk from changes in interest rates on debt and changes in commodity prices.

The Company's exposure to interest rate risk relates to its \$140,000,000 revolving lines of credit with its banks. Borrowings under the agreement bear interest at rates ranging from 50 to 95 basis points over the 30, 60, 90 or 180 London Interbank Offered Rate. At September 30, 2001 and December 31, 2000, the Company had a \$10,000,000 outstanding balance on the lines of credit.

Many of the food products purchased by the Company and its franchisees are affected by commodity pricing and are, therefore, subject to unpredictable price volatility. These commodities are generally purchased based upon market prices established with vendors. The purchase arrangement may contain contractual features that limit the price paid by establishing certain floors and caps. The Company does not use financial instruments to hedge commodity prices because the Company's purchase arrangements help control the ultimate cost paid. Extreme changes in commodity prices and/or long-term changes could affect the Company adversely. The Company expects that in most cases increased commodity prices could be passed through to its consumers via increases in menu prices. From time to time, competitive circumstances could limit menu price flexibility, and in those cases margins would be negatively impacted by increased commodity prices.

This market risk discussion contains forward-looking statements. Actual results may differ materially from the discussion based upon general market conditions and changes in domestic and global financial markets.

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OUTBACK STEAKHOUSE, INC. (R)
PART II: OTHER INFORMATION

Item 6. Exhibits and Reports on Form 8-K.

(a) Exhibits
None

(b) Reports on Form 8-K
The Company filed reports on Form 8-K with the Securities and Exchange Commission dated August 27,

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2001, September 26, 2001 and October 16, 2001.

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SIGNATURES

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

Date: November 14, 2001.

OUTBACK STEAKHOUSE, INC. (R)
(Registrant)

By: /s/ Robert S. Merritt
Robert S. Merritt
Senior Vice President,
Finance (Principal Financial
and Accounting Officer)

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