

ALEXANDERS J CORP  
Form 10-Q  
August 13, 2008

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

**FORM 10-Q**

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

**For quarterly period ended June 29, 2008**

**or**

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

**For the transition period from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Commission file number: 1-8766**

**J. ALEXANDER S CORPORATION**

*(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)*

**Tennessee**

*(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)*

**62-0854056**

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

**3401 West End Avenue, Suite 260**

**P.O. Box 24300**

**Nashville, Tennessee**

*(Address of principal executive offices)*

**37202**

*(Zip Code)*

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: **(615)269-1900**

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes  No   
Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of large accelerated filer, accelerated filer and smaller reporting company in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

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

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

As of August 12, 2008, 6,675,468 shares of the registrant's Common Stock, \$.05 par value, were outstanding.

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Table of Contents**PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION****Item 1. Financial Statements****J. Alexander's Corporation and Subsidiaries****Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets****(Unaudited in thousands, except share and per share amounts)**

|  | <b>June 29<br/>2008</b> | December 30<br>2007 |
|--|-------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>ASSETS</b>  |                         |                     |
| <b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>  |                         |                     |
| Cash and cash equivalents  | <b>\$ 8,715</b>         | \$ 11,325           |
| Accounts and notes receivable  | <b>3,106</b>            | 3,365               |
| Inventories  | <b>1,090</b>            | 1,297               |
| Deferred income taxes  | <b>1,047</b>            | 1,047               |
| Prepaid expenses and other current assets  | <b>1,809</b>            | 1,596               |
| <b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>  | <b>15,767</b>           | 18,630              |
| <b>OTHER ASSETS</b>  | <b>1,420</b>            | 1,341               |
| <b>PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT</b> , at cost, less allowances for depreciation and amortization of \$48,373 and \$45,698 at June 29, 2008 and December 30, 2007, respectively | <b>81,651</b>           | 78,551              |
| <b>DEFERRED INCOME TAXES</b>   | <b>5,341</b>            | 5,341               |
| <b>DEFERRED CHARGES</b> , less amortization  | <b>677</b>              | 716                 |
|  | <b>\$ 104,856</b>       | \$ 104,579          |

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|   | <b>June 29<br/>2008</b> | December 30<br>2007 |
|---|-------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY</b>  |                         |                     |
| <b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>  |                         |                     |
| Accounts payable  | \$ 5,551                | \$ 5,885            |
| Accrued expenses and other current liabilities  | 3,699                   | 5,123               |
| Unearned revenue  | 1,476                   | 2,255               |
| Current portion of long-term debt and obligations under capital leases  | 925                     | 955                 |
| <b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>  | <b>11,651</b>           | 14,218              |
| <b>LONG-TERM DEBT AND OBLIGATIONS UNDER CAPITAL LEASES, net of<br/>portion classified as current</b>  | <b>20,911</b>           | 21,349              |
| <b>OTHER LONG-TERM LIABILITIES</b>  | <b>6,681</b>            | 6,431               |
| <b>STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY</b>  |                         |                     |
| Common Stock, par value \$.05 per share: Authorized 10,000,000 shares; issued<br>and outstanding 6,674,468 and 6,655,625 shares at June 29, 2008 and<br>December 30, 2007, respectively | 334                     | 333                 |
| Preferred Stock, no par value: Authorized 1,000,000 shares; none issued   |                         |                     |
| Additional paid-in capital  | 35,996                  | 35,764              |
| Retained earnings   | 29,283                  | 26,484              |
| <b>TOTAL STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY</b>  | <b>65,613</b>           | 62,581              |
|   | <b>\$ 104,856</b>       | \$ 104,579          |

See notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

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**J. Alexander's Corporation and Subsidiaries**  
**Consolidated Statements of Income**  
**(Unaudited in thousands, except per share amounts)**

|  | Quarter Ended           |                | Six Months Ended        |                |
|--|-------------------------|----------------|-------------------------|----------------|
|  | <b>June 29<br/>2008</b> | July 1<br>2007 | <b>June 29<br/>2008</b> | July 1<br>2007 |
| Net sales  | <b>\$ 34,767</b>        | \$ 34,742      | <b>\$ 72,253</b>        | \$ 71,267      |
| Costs and expenses:  |                         |                |                         |                |
| Cost of sales  | <b>10,803</b>           | 11,279         | <b>22,851</b>           | 22,993         |
| Restaurant labor and related costs                                 | <b>11,253</b>           | 11,138         | <b>22,952</b>           | 22,362         |
| Depreciation and amortization of restaurant property and equipment | <b>1,445</b>            | 1,298          | <b>2,890</b>            | 2,577          |
| Other operating expenses   | <b>7,267</b>            | 6,911          | <b>14,679</b>           | 13,835         |
| Total restaurant operating expenses                                | <b>30,768</b>           | 30,626         | <b>63,372</b>           | 61,767         |
| General and administrative expenses                                | <b>2,391</b>            | 2,502          | <b>4,924</b>            | 4,810          |
| Pre-opening expense  | <b>289</b>              | 56             | <b>333</b>              | 56             |
| Operating income   | <b>1,319</b>            | 1,558          | <b>3,624</b>            | 4,634          |
| Other income (expense):  |                         |                |                         |                |
| Interest expense   | <b>(427)</b>            | (465)          | <b>(879)</b>            | (951)          |
| Interest income  | <b>41</b>               | 184            | <b>103</b>              | 359            |
| Other, net   | <b>17</b>               | 21             | <b>34</b>               | 38             |
| Total other expense  | <b>(369)</b>            | (260)          | <b>(742)</b>            | (554)          |
| Income before income taxes   | <b>950</b>              | 1,298          | <b>2,882</b>            | 4,080          |
| Income tax benefit (provision)                                     | <b>273</b>              | (345)          | <b>(83)</b>             | (1,102)        |
| Net income   | <b>\$ 1,223</b>         | \$ 953         | <b>\$ 2,799</b>         | \$ 2,978       |
| Basic earnings per share   | <b>\$ .18</b>           | \$ .14         | <b>\$ .42</b>           | \$ .45         |
| Diluted earnings per share   | <b>\$ .18</b>           | \$ .14         | <b>\$ .41</b>           | \$ .43         |

See notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

**Table of Contents****J. Alexander's Corporation and Subsidiaries  
Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows  
(Unaudited in thousands)**

|  | Six Months Ended        |                |
|--|-------------------------|----------------|
|  | <b>June 29<br/>2008</b> | July 1<br>2007 |
| Cash flows from operating activities:  |                         |                |
| Net income   | <b>\$ 2,799</b>         | \$ 2,978       |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:  |                         |                |
| Depreciation and amortization of property and equipment  | <b>2,921</b>            | 2,618          |
| Changes in working capital accounts  | <b>(2,098)</b>          | (1,771)        |
| Other operating activities   | <b>520</b>              | 460            |
| Net cash provided by operating activities  | <b>4,142</b>            | 4,285          |
| Cash flows from investing activities:  |                         |                |
| Purchase of property and equipment   | <b>(5,081)</b>          | (3,298)        |
| Other investing activities   | <b>(71)</b>             | (46)           |
| Net cash used in investing activities  | <b>(5,152)</b>          | (3,344)        |
| Cash flows from financing activities:  |                         |                |
| Payments on debt and obligations under capital leases  | <b>(468)</b>            | (438)          |
| Decrease in bank overdraft   | <b>(527)</b>            | (317)          |
| Payment of cash dividend   | <b>(666)</b>            | (657)          |
| Exercise of stock options  | <b>35</b>               | 373            |
| Payment of required withholding taxes on behalf of an employee in connection with the net share settlement of an employee stock option exercised |                         | (101)          |
| Excess tax benefit related to share-based compensation   | <b>26</b>               | 243            |
| Net cash used in financing activities  | <b>(1,600)</b>          | (897)          |
| (Decrease) increase in cash and cash equivalents   | <b>(2,610)</b>          | 44             |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period   | <b>11,325</b>           | 14,688         |
| Cash and cash equivalents at end of period   | <b>\$ 8,715</b>         | \$ 14,732      |
| Supplemental disclosures of non-cash items:  |                         |                |
| Property and equipment obligations accrued at beginning of period  | <b>\$ 610</b>           | \$ 123         |
| Property and equipment obligations accrued at end of period  | <b>\$ 1,609</b>         | \$ 652         |
| See notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.  |                         |                |





**Table of Contents****J. Alexander's Corporation and Subsidiaries****Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Unaudited)****NOTE A BASIS OF PRESENTATION**

The accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles for interim financial information and with the instructions to Form 10-Q and rules of the United States Securities and Exchange Commission. Accordingly, they do not include all of the information and footnotes required by U.S. generally accepted accounting principles for complete financial statements. In the opinion of management, all adjustments (consisting of normal recurring accruals) considered necessary for a fair presentation have been included. Operating results for the quarter and six months ended June 29, 2008 are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for the fiscal year ending December 28, 2008. For further information, refer to the consolidated financial statements and footnotes thereto included in the J. Alexander's Corporation (the Company's) Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 30, 2007.

Net income and comprehensive income are the same for all periods presented.

**NOTE B EARNINGS PER SHARE**

The following table sets forth the computation of basic and diluted earnings per share:

|   | Quarter Ended               |                | Six Months Ended            |                |
|---|-----------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|----------------|
|   | <b>June<br/>29<br/>2008</b> | July 1<br>2007 | <b>June<br/>29<br/>2008</b> | July 1<br>2007 |
| (In thousands, except per share amounts)                                      |                             |                |                             |                |
| <b>Numerator:</b>   |                             |                |                             |                |
| Net income (numerator for basic and diluted earnings per share)               | <b>\$ 1,223</b>             | \$ 953         | <b>\$ 2,799</b>             | \$ 2,978       |
| <b>Denominator:</b>   |                             |                |                             |                |
| Weighted average shares (denominator for basic earnings per share)            | <b>6,674</b>                | 6,611          | <b>6,669</b>                | 6,591          |
| Effect of dilutive securities   | <b>205</b>                  | 398            | <b>210</b>                  | 363            |
| Adjusted weighted average shares (denominator for diluted earnings per share) | <b>6,879</b>                | 7,009          | <b>6,879</b>                | 6,954          |
| Basic earnings per share  | <b>\$ .18</b>               | \$ .14         | <b>\$ .42</b>               | \$ .45         |
| Diluted earnings per share  | <b>\$ .18</b>               | \$ .14         | <b>\$ .41</b>               | \$ .43         |

The calculations of diluted earnings per share exclude stock options for the purchase of 659,500 shares and 300,000 shares of the Company's common stock for the quarters ended June 29, 2008 and July 1, 2007, respectively, because the effect of their inclusion would be anti-dilutive. Anti-dilutive options to purchase 522,250 and 150,000 shares of common stock were excluded from the diluted earnings per share calculation for the six months ended June 29, 2008 and July 1, 2007, respectively.

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**NOTE C INCOME TAXES**

The Company's income tax provisions for the first six months of 2008 and 2007 were based on estimated effective annual rates of 2.9% and 27.0%, respectively. These rates are lower than the statutory federal rate of 34% due primarily to the effect of FICA tip tax credits, with the effect of those credits being partially offset by the effect of state income taxes. An income tax benefit of \$273,000 was recorded in the second quarter of 2008 due to the effect of lowering the estimated annual effective rate for 2008 in the second quarter primarily because the Company's estimate of pre-tax income for the year was lowered.

**NOTE D COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES**

As a result of the disposition of its Wendy's operations in 1996, the Company remains secondarily liable for certain real property leases with remaining terms of one to eight years. The total estimated amount of lease payments remaining on these 12 leases at June 29, 2008 was approximately \$2.1 million. Also, in connection with the sale of its Mrs. Winner's Chicken & Biscuit restaurant operations in 1989 and certain previous dispositions, the Company remains secondarily liable for certain real property leases with remaining terms of one to five years. The total estimated amount of lease payments remaining on these 20 leases at June 29, 2008, was approximately \$800,000. Additionally, in connection with the previous disposition of certain other Wendy's restaurant operations, primarily the southern California restaurants in 1982, the Company remains secondarily liable for real property leases with remaining terms of one to five years. The total estimated amount of lease payments remaining on these eight leases as of June 29, 2008, was approximately \$500,000.

The Company is from time to time subject to routine litigation incidental to its business. The Company believes that the results of such legal proceedings will not have a materially adverse effect on the Company's financial condition, operating results or liquidity.

**NOTE E RECENT ACCOUNTING PRONOUNCEMENTS**

In 2006, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 157, Fair Value Measurements (SFAS 157). SFAS 157 provides guidance for using fair value to measure assets and liabilities. The standard expands required disclosures about the extent to which companies measure assets and liabilities at fair value, the information used to measure fair value, and the effect of fair value measurements on earnings. SFAS 157 is effective for fiscal years which began after November 15, 2007, except for nonfinancial assets and liabilities that are recognized or disclosed at fair value in the financial statements on a nonrecurring basis, which have been deferred for one year. Adoption of this Statement at the beginning of fiscal 2008 had no impact on the Company's Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

In February 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 159, The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities (SFAS 159), which gives entities the option to measure eligible financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value on an instrument by instrument basis which are otherwise not permitted to be accounted for at fair value under other accounting standards. The election to use the fair value option is

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available when an entity first recognizes a financial asset or financial liability. Subsequent changes in fair value must be recorded in earnings. This Statement is effective for fiscal years which began after November 15, 2007. Adoption of this Statement at the beginning of fiscal 2008 had no impact on the Company's Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

In March 2008, the FASB issued SFAS No. 161, Disclosures about Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities ( SFAS 161 ). SFAS 161 requires enhanced disclosures about an entity's derivative and hedging activities and is effective for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2008, and the Company will adopt these provisions in the first quarter of fiscal 2009. The Company is currently evaluating the impact of adopting SFAS 161 on its 2009 Consolidated Financial Statements.

In April 2008, the FASB issued FASB Staff Position No. FAS 142-3, Determination of the Useful Life of Intangible Assets ( FSP 142-3 ). FSP 142-3 amends the factors that should be considered in developing renewal or extension assumptions used to determine the useful life of a recognized intangible asset under FASB Statement No. 142, Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets and requires enhanced related disclosures. FSP 142-3 must be applied prospectively to all intangible assets acquired as of and subsequent to fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2008, and the Company will adopt these provisions in the first quarter of fiscal 2009. The Company is currently evaluating the impact of adopting FSP 142-3 on its 2009 Consolidated Financial Statements.

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**Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations**  
**RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

**Overview**

J. Alexander's Corporation (the Company) operates upscale casual dining restaurants. At June 29, 2008, the Company operated 30 J. Alexander's restaurants in 12 states. The Company's net sales are derived primarily from the sale of food and alcoholic beverages in its restaurants.

The Company's strategy is for J. Alexander's restaurants to compete in the restaurant industry by providing guests with outstanding professional service, high-quality food, and an attractive environment with an upscale, high-energy ambiance. Quality is emphasized throughout J. Alexander's operations and substantially all menu items are prepared on the restaurant premises using fresh, high-quality ingredients. The Company's goal is for each J. Alexander's restaurant to be perceived by guests in its market as a market leader in each of the categories above. J. Alexander's restaurants offer a contemporary American menu designed to appeal to a wide range of consumer tastes. The Company believes, however, that its restaurants are most popular with more discriminating guests with higher discretionary incomes. J. Alexander's typically does not advertise in the media and relies on each restaurant to increase sales by building its reputation as an outstanding dining establishment. The Company has generally been successful in achieving sales increases in its restaurants over time using this strategy. Currently, however, the Company is experiencing decreases in same store sales as is further discussed under Net Sales and management believes it will be very difficult to increase, or even maintain, same store sales until consumers regain their confidence and consumer spending improves.

The restaurant industry is highly competitive and is often affected by changes in consumer tastes and discretionary spending patterns; changes in general economic conditions; public safety conditions or concerns; demographic trends; weather conditions; the cost of food products, labor and energy; and governmental regulations. Because of these factors, the Company's management believes it is of critical importance to the Company's success to effectively execute the Company's operating strategy and to constantly evolve and refine the critical conceptual elements of J. Alexander's restaurants in order to distinguish them from other casual dining competitors and maintain the Company's competitive position.

The restaurant industry is also characterized by high capital investment for new restaurants and relatively high fixed or semi-variable restaurant operating expenses. Because a significant portion of restaurant operating expenses are fixed or semi-variable in nature, changes in sales in existing restaurants are generally expected to significantly affect restaurant profitability because many restaurant costs and expenses are not expected to change at the same rate as sales. Management believes that excellence in restaurant operations, and particularly providing exceptional guest service, will maintain or increase net sales in the Company's restaurants over time and will support menu pricing levels which allow the Company to achieve reasonable operating margins while absorbing the higher costs of providing high-quality dining experiences and operating cost increases.

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Changes in sales for existing restaurants are generally measured in the restaurant industry by computing the change in same store sales, which represents the change in sales for the same group of restaurants from the same period in the prior year. Same store sales changes can be the result of changes in guest counts, which the Company estimates based on a count of entrée items sold, and changes in the average check per guest. The average check per guest can be affected by menu price changes and the mix of menu items sold. Management regularly analyzes guest count, average check and product mix trends for each restaurant in order to improve menu pricing and product offering strategies. Management believes it is important to maintain or increase guest counts and average guest checks over time in order to improve the Company's profitability.

Other key indicators which can be used to evaluate and understand the Company's restaurant operations include cost of sales, restaurant labor and related costs and other operating expenses, with a focus on these expenses as a percentage of net sales. Since the Company uses primarily fresh ingredients for food preparation, the cost of food commodities can vary significantly from time to time due to a number of factors. The Company generally expects to increase menu prices in order to offset the increase in the cost of food products as well as increases which the Company experiences in labor and related costs and other operating expenses, but attempts to balance these increases with the goals of providing reasonable value to the Company's guests. Management believes that restaurant operating margin, which is net sales less total restaurant operating expenses expressed as a percentage of net sales, is an important indicator of the Company's success in managing its restaurant operations because it is affected by the level of sales achieved, menu pricing strategy, and the management and control of restaurant operating expenses in relation to net sales.

The number of restaurants opened or under development in a particular year can have a significant impact on the Company's operating results because pre-opening expense for new restaurants is significant and most new restaurants incur operating losses during their early months of operation.

Because large capital investments are required for J. Alexander's restaurants and because a significant portion of labor costs and other operating expenses are fixed or semi-variable in nature, management believes the sales required for a J. Alexander's restaurant to break even are relatively high compared to many other casual dining concepts and that it is necessary for the Company to achieve relatively high sales volumes in its restaurants in order to achieve desired financial returns. The Company's criteria for new restaurant development target locations with high population densities and high household incomes which management believes provide the best prospects for achieving attractive financial returns on the Company's investments in new restaurants. The Company expects to open three new restaurants in the last half of 2008.

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The following table sets forth, for the periods indicated, (i) the items in the Company's Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income expressed as a percentage of net sales, and (ii) other selected operating data:

|  | Quarter Ended      |                | Six Months Ended   |                |
|--|--------------------|----------------|--------------------|----------------|
|  | June<br>29<br>2008 | July 1<br>2007 | June<br>29<br>2008 | July 1<br>2007 |
| Net sales  | <b>100.0%</b>      | 100.0%         | <b>100.0%</b>      | 100.0%         |
| Costs and expenses:  |                    |                |                    |                |
| Cost of sales  | <b>31.1</b>        | 32.5           | <b>31.6</b>        | 32.3           |
| Restaurant labor and related costs                                 | <b>32.4</b>        | 32.1           | <b>31.8</b>        | 31.4           |
| Depreciation and amortization of restaurant property and equipment | <b>4.2</b>         | 3.7            | <b>4.0</b>         | 3.6            |
| Other operating expenses   | <b>20.9</b>        | 19.9           | <b>20.3</b>        | 19.4           |
| Total restaurant operating expenses                                | <b>88.5</b>        | 88.2           | <b>87.7</b>        | 86.7           |
| General and administrative expenses                                | <b>6.9</b>         | 7.2            | <b>6.8</b>         | 6.7            |
| Pre-opening expense  | <b>0.8</b>         | 0.2            | <b>0.5</b>         | 0.1            |
| Operating income   | <b>3.8</b>         | 4.5            | <b>5.0</b>         | 6.5            |
| Other income (expense):  |                    |                |                    |                |
| Interest expense   | <b>(1.2)</b>       | (1.3)          | <b>(1.2)</b>       | (1.3)          |
| Interest income  | <b>0.1</b>         | 0.5            | <b>0.1</b>         | 0.5            |
| Other, net   |                    | 0.1            |                    | 0.1            |
| Total other expense  | <b>(1.1)</b>       | (0.7)          | <b>(1.0)</b>       | (0.8)          |
| Income before income taxes   | <b>2.7</b>         | 3.7            | <b>4.0</b>         | 5.7            |
| Income tax benefit (provision)                                     | <b>0.8</b>         | (1.0)          | <b>(0.1)</b>       | (1.5)          |
| Net income   | <b>3.5%</b>        | 2.7%           | <b>3.9%</b>        | 4.2%           |

*Note: Certain percentage totals do not sum due to rounding.*

|  |                  |           |                  |           |
|--|------------------|-----------|------------------|-----------|
| Restaurants open at end of period        | <b>30</b>        | 28        |                  |           |
| Average weekly sales per restaurant (1): |                  |           |                  |           |
| All restaurants                          | <b>\$ 89,300</b> | \$ 95,400 | <b>\$ 92,900</b> | \$ 97,800 |
| Percent change                           | <b>-6.4%</b>     |           | <b>-5.0%</b>     |           |
| Same store restaurants (2)               | <b>\$ 91,300</b> | \$ 95,400 | <b>\$ 94,500</b> | \$ 97,800 |
| Percent change                           | <b>-4.3%</b>     |           | <b>-3.4%</b>     |           |

(1) The Company computes average weekly sales per restaurant by dividing total restaurant sales for the period by

the total number of days all restaurants were open for the period to obtain a daily sales average, with the daily sales average then multiplied by seven to arrive at weekly average sales per restaurant. Days on which restaurants are closed for business for any reason other than the scheduled closure of all J. Alexander's restaurants on Thanksgiving day and Christmas day are excluded from this calculation. Average weekly same store sales per restaurant are computed in the same manner as described above except that sales and sales days used in the calculation include only those for restaurants open for more than 18 months. Revenue associated with reductions in liabilities for gift cards which

are considered  
to be only  
remotely likely  
to be redeemed  
is not included  
in the  
calculation of  
average weekly  
sales per  
restaurant or  
average weekly  
same store sales  
per restaurant.

- (2) Includes the  
twenty-eight  
restaurants open  
for more than  
eighteen  
months.



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Net sales increased by \$25,000, or 0.1%, and \$986,000, or 1.4%, in the second quarter and first six months of 2008, respectively, compared to the same periods of 2007. These increases were due to net sales generated by two new restaurants opened in the fourth quarter of 2007 which more than offset decreases in net sales in the same store restaurant base.

The reported average weekly consolidated and same store sales per restaurant have been adjusted for the effect of 22 sales days and estimated net sales of approximately \$300,000 lost in the first half of 2008 due to a fire at the Company's Denver restaurant and severe winter weather conditions in the Ohio market. Also, the Company's fiscal calendar resulted in New Year's Eve, when the Company typically experiences much higher than normal net sales, being included as the first day of fiscal 2008, but not being included in the first half of 2007. Management estimates that average weekly same store sales excluding the first day of the first half of both fiscal 2008 and 2007 decreased by 3.8% compared to the 3.4% decrease for the full first half.

Management estimates the average check per guest, including alcoholic beverage sales, increased by 0.4% to \$24.23 in the second quarter of 2008 from \$24.14 in the second quarter of 2007 and by 1.2% to \$24.53 for the first half of 2008 compared to \$24.25 for the first half of 2007. Management believes these increases were due primarily to the effect of higher menu prices which it estimates averaged approximately 0.6% and 1.6% higher in the second quarter and first six months of 2008, respectively, than in the corresponding periods of 2007. These price increase estimates reflect menu price changes, without regard to any change in product mix because of price increases, and may not reflect amounts effectively paid by the customer. Management estimates that weekly average guest counts decreased on a same store basis, as adjusted for sales days lost for the 2008 periods, by approximately 4.5% and 4.4% in the second quarter and first six months of 2008, respectively, compared to the same periods of 2007.

The Company's same store sales have decreased in most weeks since mid-September of 2007. Management believes these decreases, as well as recent guest count losses, are due to a significant slowdown in discretionary consumer spending due to the effects of rising inflation, especially for food and fuel, the tightening of consumer credit and general concerns about the U.S economy. The downturn in same store sales trends in recent months has affected virtually all of the Company's restaurants, with the restaurants in Ohio and Illinois being affected more than those in most other markets.

**Restaurant Costs and Expenses**

Total restaurant operating expenses increased to 88.5% of net sales in the second quarter of 2008 from 88.2% in the second period of the previous year and to 87.7% of net sales in the first half of 2008 from 86.7% in the first half of 2007 due primarily to the effects of lower same store sales and the two new restaurants opened in the fourth quarter of 2007, with the effects of these factors being partially offset by lower cost of sales for the 2008 periods. Restaurant operating margins decreased to 11.5% in the second quarter of 2008 from 11.8% in the second quarter of 2007 and to 12.3% in the first half of 2008 compared to 13.3% in the same period of 2007.

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Cost of sales, which includes the cost of food and beverages, decreased as a percentage of net sales for both the second quarter and first six months of 2008 compared to the same periods of 2007 primarily due to lower prices paid for beef which was purchased at market prices beginning in March of 2008 rather than under a fixed price purchasing agreement as in 2007. The effect of this change reduced cost of sales by an estimated 1.3% of net sales in the second quarter of 2008 and 0.6% for the first half of 2008 compared to the same periods of 2007. The second quarter of 2008 also included the settlement of a claim against a prospective vendor which decreased cost of sales for the period by another 0.5% for the quarter and 0.2% for the first six months of the year compared to the prior year periods.

Beef purchases represent the largest component of the Company's cost of sales and comprise approximately 25% to 30% of this expense category. In recent years the Company has entered into fixed price beef purchase agreements in an effort to minimize the impact of significant increases in the market price of beef. However, because of uncertainty in the beef market and the high prices at which beef has been quoted to the Company on a forward fixed price basis relative to current market prices, the Company has not entered into a fixed price beef purchase agreement to replace the agreement which expired in March of 2008, and has purchased beef based on weekly market prices since that time. Market prices for beef have increased during the third quarter of 2008 to date compared to prices paid by the Company in the second quarter of 2008 and could increase further, perhaps significantly, during the remainder of the year. Management will continue to monitor the beef market in 2008 and if there are significant changes in market conditions or attractive opportunities to contract later in the year, will consider entering into a fixed price purchasing agreement.

Management expects the Company to experience increases in many of the food commodities it purchases in 2008, and believes a significant factor which will contribute to such increases is the increased price of petroleum which has increased fuel costs as well as the price of corn and other commodities as the result of increased demand for corn for use in producing corn ethanol as an alternative fuel source. Management is uncertain at this time whether it will raise menu prices in response to such increases because the Company is experiencing decreases in same store guest counts and continues to have concerns about spending pressures already being faced by consumers.

Restaurant labor and related costs increased to 32.4% of net sales in the second quarter of 2008 from 32.1% in the second quarter of 2007 and to 31.8% for the first half of 2008 from 31.4% for the first half of 2007. These increases were due primarily to the effects of lower same store sales and higher labor costs incurred in the two new restaurants opened in the fourth quarter of 2007, with the effects of these factors being partially offset by lower incentive compensation and other employee benefits expense.

The Company estimates that the impact of increases in minimum wage rates will be approximately \$150,000 in 2008. Most of these increases relate to increases in minimum cash rates required by certain states to be paid to tipped employees. The increases in the federal minimum wage rate for non-tipped employees in 2007 and 2008 have not had, and are not expected to have, a significant impact on the Company because most of the Company's non-tipped employees are already paid more than the federal minimum wage. The required federal minimum cash wage paid to tipped employees was not increased in 2007 or 2008.

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Depreciation and amortization of restaurant property and equipment increased by \$147,000 in the second quarter of 2008 and \$313,000 in the first six months of 2008 compared to the same periods in 2007 because of the effect of the new restaurants opened during the fourth quarter of 2007. The effect of the new restaurants as well as the effect of lower same store sales resulted in increases in this expense category as a percentage of net sales in the 2008 periods.

Other operating expenses, which include restaurant level expenses such as china and supplies, laundry and linen costs, repairs and maintenance, utilities, credit card fees, rent, property taxes and insurance, increased to 20.9% of net sales in the second quarter of 2008, from 19.9% of net sales in the second quarter of 2007 and to 20.3% of net sales for the first half of 2008 compared to 19.4% in the same period of 2007. These increases were also due to the effects of the two new restaurants opened in the fourth quarter of 2007 and lower sales in the same store restaurant base.

**General and Administrative Expenses**

General and administrative expenses, which include all supervisory costs and expenses, management training and relocation costs, and other costs incurred above the restaurant level, decreased by \$111,000 in the second quarter of 2008 versus the second quarter of 2007 due primarily to lower travel expenses and the absence in the 2008 quarter of bonus accruals for the corporate management staff, whereas such accruals were included in the second quarter of 2007. General and administrative expenses increased by \$114,000 in the first half of 2008 compared to the first half of 2007 due primarily to increases in management training and employee relocation expenses, higher legal and accounting fees, and higher share-based compensation expense. These increases were partially offset by the absence of bonus accruals for the corporate management staff in 2008 and lower travel expenses.

**Pre-Opening Expense**

Pre-opening expense consists of expenses incurred prior to opening a new restaurant and include principally manager salaries and relocation costs, payroll and related costs for training new employees, travel and lodging expenses for employees who assist with training new employees, and the cost of food and other expenses associated with practice of food preparation and service activities. Pre-opening expense also includes rent expense for leased properties for the period of time between the Company taking control of the property and the opening of the restaurant.

Pre-opening expense of \$289,000 and \$333,000 was incurred in the second quarter and first half of 2008, respectively, in connection with three J. Alexander's restaurants under development during those periods which are expected to open in the last half of the year. The Company estimates that it will incur approximately \$1.3 million of pre-opening expense during the last half of 2008 in connection with these restaurants.

**Other Income (Expense)**

Interest expense decreased in the second quarter and first half of 2008 compared to the same periods in 2007 due to the effect of reductions in outstanding debt and capitalization of interest costs in connection with new restaurant development. Interest income decreased in the second quarter and first half of 2008 compared to the corresponding periods of 2007 due to lower average balances of surplus funds invested in money market funds and lower interest rates earned on those funds.

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Interest income is expected to continue to decrease in 2008 compared to the last half of 2007 due to the expected use of a significant portion of the Company's surplus funds for restaurant development and lower expected yields on invested funds.

**Income Taxes**

The Company's income tax provisions for the first six months of 2008 and 2007 were based on estimated effective annual rates of 2.9% and 27.0%, respectively. These rates are lower than the statutory federal rate of 34% due primarily to the effect of FICA tip tax credits, with the effect of those credits being partially offset by the effect of state income taxes. An income tax benefit of \$273,000 was recorded in the second quarter of 2008 due to the effect of lowering the estimated annual effective rate for 2008 in the second quarter primarily because the Company's estimate of pre-tax income for the year was lowered.

**Outlook**

Management expects that the last half of 2008 will continue to be very challenging. The third quarter is typically one of the Company's weaker sales periods and based on increasingly worsening sales trends in the third quarter to date, with same store sales in recent weeks having declined by 6% to 10%, and what appear to be worsening effects of economic considerations on discretionary spending by upscale consumers, management expects same store sales for the third quarter of 2008 will decrease by more than the decrease experienced in the second quarter of 2008. Because, as previously discussed, a significant portion of the Company's labor and other operating expenses are fixed or semi-variable in nature, management expects that same store sales decreases in the third quarter will have a significant negative effect on the Company's restaurant operating margins and profitability, especially given management's expectation that input costs will continue to increase. In addition, operating losses are expected to be incurred during the quarter by a new restaurant which opened in August. As a result of the factors discussed above, management expects the Company will incur a significant net loss for the third quarter of 2008 even without the effect of pre-opening expense of approximately \$900,000 which is expected to be incurred during the quarter which will further increase the net loss.

**LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES**

The Company's capital needs are primarily for the development and construction of new J. Alexander's restaurants, for maintenance of and improvements to its existing restaurants, and for meeting debt service requirements and operating lease obligations. Additionally, the Company paid cash dividends to all shareholders aggregating \$666,000, \$657,000 and \$653,000 in January of 2008, 2007 and 2006, respectively, which dividends met the requirements to extend certain contractual standstill restrictions under an agreement with the Company's largest shareholder. The Company may consider paying additional dividends in the future. The Company has met its needs and maintained liquidity in recent years primarily by use of cash flow from operations and the availability of a bank line of credit.

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The Company's net cash provided by operating activities totaled \$4,142,000 and \$4,285,000 for the first six months of 2008 and 2007, respectively. Management expects that future cash flows from operating activities will vary primarily as a result of future operating results. Cash and cash equivalents on hand at June 29, 2008 were approximately \$8.7 million. In addition, at June 29, 2008, the Company had due a federal income tax refund of approximately \$925,000 which it expects to receive in 2008.

The Company plans to open three new restaurants in 2008. Estimated cash expenditures for capital assets for the remainder of 2008 are approximately \$10.1 million, a significant portion of which represents the costs to develop the new restaurants planned for the year.

Management believes cash and cash equivalents on hand at June 29, 2008 combined with cash flow from operations will be adequate to meet the Company's capital needs for 2008. Management currently does not plan to open any new restaurants in 2009 and is considering opening one or two new restaurants in 2010 depending on the availability of suitable sites and other factors. While management does not believe its longer-term growth plans will be constrained due to lack of capital resources, capital requirements for future growth could exceed the amount of funds currently on hand and which are expected to be generated by the Company's operations. Management believes that, if needed, additional financing would be available for future growth through bank borrowing, additional mortgage or equipment financing, or the sale and leaseback of some or all of the Company's unencumbered restaurant properties. There can be no assurance, however, that such financing, if needed, could be obtained or that it would be on terms satisfactory to the Company.

A mortgage loan obtained in 2002 represents the most significant portion of the Company's outstanding long-term debt. The loan, which was originally for \$25 million, had an outstanding balance of \$21.5 million at June 29, 2008. It has an effective annual interest rate, including the effect of the amortization of deferred issue costs, of 8.6% and is payable in equal monthly installments of principal and interest of approximately \$212,000 through November 2022. Provisions of the mortgage loan and related agreements require that a minimum fixed charge coverage ratio of 1.25 to 1 be maintained for the businesses operated at the properties included under the mortgage and that a funded debt to EBITDA (as defined in the loan agreement) ratio of 6 to 1 be maintained for the Company and its subsidiaries. The loan is secured by the real estate, equipment and other personal property of nine of the Company's restaurant locations with an aggregate book value of \$23.1 million at June 29, 2008. The real property at these locations is owned by JAX Real Estate, LLC, the borrower under the loan agreement, which leases them to a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company as lessee. The Company has guaranteed the obligations of the lessee subsidiary to pay rents under the lease. JAX Real Estate, LLC, is an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company which is included in the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements. However, JAX Real Estate, LLC was established as a special purpose, bankruptcy remote entity and maintains its own legal existence, ownership of its assets and responsibility for its liabilities separate from the Company and its other affiliates.

The Company maintains a secured bank line of credit agreement which provides up to \$10 million of credit availability for financing capital expenditures related to the development of new restaurants and for general operating purposes. The line of credit is secured by mortgages on the real estate of two of the Company's restaurant locations with an aggregate book value of \$7.2 million at June 29, 2008, and the Company has also agreed not to encumber, sell or transfer four other fee-owned properties.

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Provisions of the loan agreement require that the Company maintain a fixed charge coverage ratio of at least 1.5 to 1 and a maximum adjusted debt to EBITDAR (as defined in the loan agreement) ratio of 3.5 to 1. The loan agreement also provides that defaults which permit acceleration of debt under other loan agreements constitute a default under the bank agreement and restricts the Company's ability to incur additional debt outside of the agreement. Any amounts outstanding under the line of credit bear interest at the LIBOR rate as defined in the loan agreement plus a spread of 1.75% to 2.25%, depending on the Company's leverage ratio within a permitted range. The Company also pays a commitment fee of 0.125% to 0.3% per annum on the unused portion of the credit line, also depending on the Company's leverage ratio. The maturity date of this credit facility is July 1, 2009 unless it is converted to a term loan under the provisions of the agreement prior to May 1, 2009. There were no borrowings outstanding under the line as of June 29, 2008.

The Company was in compliance with the financial covenants of its debt agreements as of June 29, 2008. Should the Company fail to comply with these covenants, management would likely request waivers of the covenants, attempt to renegotiate them or seek other sources of financing. However, if these efforts were not successful, the unused portion of the Company's bank line of credit would not be available for borrowing and amounts outstanding under the Company's debt agreements could become immediately due and payable, and there could be a material adverse effect on the Company's financial condition and operations.

**OFF BALANCE SHEET ARRANGEMENTS**

As of August 12, 2008, the Company had no financing transactions, arrangements or other relationships with any unconsolidated affiliated entities. Additionally, the Company is not a party to any financing arrangements involving synthetic leases or trading activities involving commodity contracts. Operating lease commitments for leased restaurants and office space are disclosed in Note D, "Commitments and Contingencies", to the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

**CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS**

From 1975 through 1996, the Company operated restaurants in the quick-service restaurant industry. The discontinuation of these quick-service restaurant operations included disposals of restaurants that were subject to lease agreements which typically contained initial lease terms of 20 years plus two additional option periods of five years each. In connection with certain of these dispositions, the Company remains secondarily liable for ensuring financial performance as set forth in the original lease agreements. The Company can only estimate its contingent liability relative to these leases, as any changes to the contractual arrangements between the current tenant and the landlord subsequent to the assignment are not required to be disclosed to the Company. A summary of the Company's estimated contingent liability as of June 29, 2008, is as follows:

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| Wendy's restaurants (20 leases)                          | \$ 2,600,000 |
| Mrs. Winner's Chicken & Biscuits restaurants (20 leases) | 800,000      |
| Total contingent liability related to assigned leases    | \$ 3,400,000 |

There have been no payments by the Company of such contingent liabilities in the history of the Company.

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**RECENT ACCOUNTING PRONOUNCEMENTS**

In 2006, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ( FASB ) issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards ( SFAS ) No. 157, Fair Value Measurements ( SFAS 157 ). SFAS 157 provides guidance for using fair value to measure assets and liabilities. The standard expands required disclosures about the extent to which companies measure assets and liabilities at fair value, the information used to measure fair value, and the effect of fair value measurements on earnings. SFAS 157 is effective for fiscal years which began after November 15, 2007, except for nonfinancial assets and liabilities that are recognized or disclosed at fair value in the financial statements on a nonrecurring basis, which have been deferred for one year. Adoption of this Statement at the beginning of fiscal 2008 had no impact on the Company s Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

In February 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 159, The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities ( SFAS 159 ), which gives entities the option to measure eligible financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value on an instrument by instrument basis which are otherwise not permitted to be accounted for at fair value under other accounting standards. The election to use the fair value option is available when an entity first recognizes a financial asset or financial liability. Subsequent changes in fair value must be recorded in earnings. This Statement is effective for fiscal years which began after November 15, 2007. Adoption of this Statement at the beginning of fiscal 2008 had no impact on the Company s Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

In March 2008, the FASB issued SFAS No. 161, Disclosures about Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities ( SFAS 161 ). SFAS 161 requires enhanced disclosures about an entity s derivative and hedging activities and is effective for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2008, and the Company will adopt these provisions in the first quarter of fiscal 2009. The Company is currently evaluating the impact of adopting SFAS 161 on its 2009 Consolidated Financial Statements.

In April 2008, the FASB issued FASB Staff Position No. FAS 142-3, Determination of the Useful Life of Intangible Assets ( FSP 142-3 ). FSP 142-3 amends the factors that should be considered in developing renewal or extension assumptions used to determine the useful life of a recognized intangible asset under FASB Statement No. 142, Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets and requires enhanced related disclosures. FSP 142-3 must be applied prospectively to all intangible assets acquired as of and subsequent to fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2008, and the Company will adopt these provisions in the first quarter of fiscal 2009. The Company is currently evaluating the impact of adopting FSP 142-3 on its 2009 Consolidated Financial Statements.

**CRITICAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND ESTIMATES**

The preparation of the Company s Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements, which have been prepared in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles, requires management 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 the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting periods. On an ongoing basis, management evaluates its estimates and judgments, including those related to

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its accounting for gift card breakage, property and equipment, leases, impairment of long-lived assets, income taxes, contingencies and litigation. Management bases its estimates and judgments on historical experience and on various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis for making judgments about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates under different assumptions or conditions.

Critical accounting policies are defined as those that are reflective of significant judgments and uncertainties, and potentially result in materially different results under different assumptions and conditions. Management believes the following critical accounting policies are those which involve the more significant judgments and estimates used in the preparation of the Company's Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

**Revenue Recognition for Gift Cards:** The Company records a liability for gift cards at the time they are sold by the Company's gift card subsidiary. Upon redemption of gift cards, net sales are recorded and the liability is reduced by the amount of card values redeemed. Reductions in liabilities for gift cards which, although they do not expire, are considered to be only remotely likely to be redeemed and for which there is no legal obligation to remit balances under unclaimed property laws of the relevant jurisdictions, have been recorded as revenue by the Company and are included in net sales in the Company's Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income. Based on the Company's historical experience, management considers the probability of redemption of a gift card to be remote when it has been outstanding for 24 months.

**Property and Equipment:** Property and equipment are recorded at cost and depreciated using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets. Leasehold improvements are amortized over the lesser of the asset's estimated useful life or the expected lease term which generally includes renewal options. Improvements are capitalized while repairs and maintenance costs are expensed as incurred. Because significant judgments are required in estimating useful lives, which are not ultimately known until the passage of time and may be dependent on proper asset maintenance, and in the determination of what constitutes a capitalized cost versus a repair or maintenance expense, changes in circumstances or use of different assumptions could result in materially different results from those determined based on the Company's estimates.

**Lease Accounting:** The Company is obligated under various lease agreements for certain restaurant facilities. At inception each lease is evaluated to determine whether it is an operating or capital lease. For operating leases, the Company recognizes rent expense on a straight-line basis over the expected lease term. Capital leases are recorded as an asset and an obligation at an amount equal to the lesser of the present value of the minimum lease payments during the lease term or the fair market value of the leased asset.

Certain of the Company's leases include rent holidays and/or escalations in payments over the base lease term, as well as the renewal periods. The effects of the rent holidays and escalations have been reflected in rent expense on a straight-line basis over the expected lease term, which begins when the Company takes possession of or is given control of the leased property and includes cancelable option periods when it is deemed to be reasonably assured that the Company will exercise its options for such periods because it would incur an economic penalty for not doing so.



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Prior to 2006, rent expense incurred during the construction period for a restaurant was capitalized as a component of property and equipment. Beginning in 2006, any rent expense incurred during the construction period for a leased restaurant has been included in pre-opening expense.

Leasehold improvements and, when applicable, property held under capital lease for each leased restaurant facility are amortized on the straight-line method over the shorter of the estimated life of the asset or the expected lease term used for lease accounting purposes. Percentage rent expense is generally based upon sales levels and is typically accrued when it is deemed probable that it will be payable. Allowances for tenant improvements received from lessors are recorded as deferred rent obligations and credited to rent expense over the term of the lease.

Judgments made by the Company about the probable term for each restaurant facility lease affect the payments that are taken into consideration when calculating straight-line rent expense and the term over which leasehold improvements for each restaurant facility are amortized. These judgments may produce materially different amounts of depreciation, amortization and rent expense than would be reported if different assumed lease terms were used.

**Impairment of Long-Lived Assets:** When events and circumstances indicate that long-lived assets – most typically assets associated with a specific restaurant – might be impaired, management compares the carrying value of such assets to the undiscounted cash flows it expects that restaurant to generate over its remaining useful life. In calculating its estimate of such undiscounted cash flows, management is required to make assumptions, which are subject to a high degree of judgment, relative to the restaurant's future period of operation, sales performance, cost of sales, labor and operating expenses. The resulting forecast of undiscounted cash flows represents management's estimate based on both historical results and management's expectation of future operations for that particular restaurant. To date, all of the Company's long-lived assets have been determined to be recoverable based on management's estimates of future cash flows.

**Income Taxes:** The Company accounts for income taxes in accordance with SFAS No. 109, Accounting for Income Taxes. This statement establishes financial accounting and reporting standards for the effects of income taxes that result from an enterprise's activities during the current and preceding years. It requires an asset and liability approach for financial accounting and reporting of income taxes. The Company recognizes deferred tax liabilities and assets for the future consequences of events that have been recognized in its Consolidated Financial Statements or tax returns. In the event the future consequences of differences between financial reporting bases and tax bases of the Company's assets and liabilities result in a net deferred tax asset, an evaluation is made of the probability of the Company's ability to realize the future benefits of such asset. A valuation allowance related to a deferred tax asset is recorded when it is more likely than not that all or some portion of the deferred tax asset will not be realized. The realization of such net deferred tax will generally depend on whether the Company will have sufficient taxable income of an appropriate character within the carry-forward period permitted by the tax law.

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The Company had a net deferred tax asset at December 30, 2007 of \$8,100,000, which amount included \$3,898,000 of tax credit carryforwards. Management has evaluated both positive and negative evidence, including its forecasts of the Company's future taxable income adjusted by varying probability factors, in making a determination as to whether it is more likely than not that all or some portion of the deferred tax asset will be realized. Based on its analysis, management concluded that for 2007 a valuation allowance was needed for federal alternative minimum tax (AMT) credit carryforwards of \$1,657,000 and for tax assets related to certain state net operating loss carryforwards, the use of which involves considerable uncertainty. The valuation allowance provided for these items at December 30, 2007 was \$1,712,000. Even though the AMT credit carryforwards do not expire, their use is not presently considered more likely than not because significant increases in earnings levels are expected to be necessary to utilize them since they must be used only after certain other carryforwards currently available, as well as additional tax credits which are expected to be generated in future years, are realized.

Failure to achieve projected taxable income could affect the ultimate realization of the Company's net deferred tax asset. Because of the uncertainties associated with projecting future operating results, there can be no assurance that management's estimates of future taxable income will be achieved and that there could not be an increase in the valuation allowance in the future. It is also possible that the Company could generate taxable income levels in the future which would cause management to conclude that it is more likely than not that the Company will realize all, or an additional portion of, its deferred tax asset. Any such revisions to the estimated realizable value of the deferred tax asset could cause the Company's provision for income taxes to vary significantly from period to period, although its cash tax payments would remain unaffected until the benefits of the various carryforwards were fully utilized.

In addition, certain other components of the Company's provision for income taxes must be estimated. These include, but are not limited to, effective state tax rates, allowable tax credits for FICA taxes paid on reported tip income, and estimates related to depreciation expense allowable for tax purposes. These estimates are made based on the best available information at the time the tax provision is prepared. Income tax returns are generally not filed, however, until several months after year-end. All tax returns are subject to audit by federal and state governments, usually years after the returns are filed, and could be subject to differing interpretations of the tax laws.

The above listing is not intended to be a comprehensive listing of all of the Company's accounting policies and estimates. In many cases, the accounting treatment of a particular transaction is specifically dictated by U.S. generally accepted accounting principles, with no need for management's judgment in their application. There are also areas in which management's judgment in selecting any available alternative would not produce a materially different result. For further information, refer to the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements and notes thereto included elsewhere in this filing which contain accounting policies and other disclosures required by U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

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**FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS**

In connection with the safe harbor established under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, the Company cautions investors that certain information contained in this Form 10-Q, particularly information regarding future economic performance and finances, development plans, and objectives of management is forward-looking information that involves risks, uncertainties and other factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied by forward-looking statements. The Company disclaims any intent or obligation to update these forward-looking statements. The Company's ability to pay a dividend will depend on its financial condition and results of operations at any time a dividend is considered or paid. Other risks, uncertainties and factors which could affect actual results include the Company's ability to maintain satisfactory guest counts and increase sales and operating margins in its restaurants; changes in business or economic conditions, including rising food costs and product shortages; the effect of higher minimum hourly wage requirements; the effect of higher gasoline prices and other economic factors on consumer demand; availability of qualified employees; increased cost of utilities, insurance and other restaurant operating expenses; potential fluctuations in quarterly operating results due to seasonality and other factors; the effect of hurricanes and other weather disturbances which are beyond the control of the Company; the number and timing of new restaurant openings and its ability to operate them profitably; competition within the casual dining industry, which is very intense; competition by the Company's new restaurants with its existing restaurants in the same vicinity; changes in consumer spending, consumer tastes, and consumer attitudes toward nutrition and health; expenses incurred if the Company is the subject of claims or litigation or increased governmental regulation; changes in accounting standards, which may affect the Company's reported results of operations; and expenses the Company may incur in order to comply with changing corporate governance and public disclosure requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the American Stock Exchange. See Risk Factors included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 30, 2007 for a description of a number of risks and uncertainties which could affect actual results.

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

The Company is a smaller reporting issuer as defined in Item 10 of Regulation S-K and thus is not required to report the quantitative and qualitative measures of market risk specified in Item 305 of Regulation S-K.

**Item 4T. Controls and Procedures**

- (a) *Evaluation of disclosure controls and procedures.* The Company's principal executive officer and principal financial officer have conducted an evaluation of the effectiveness of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rule 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) as of the end of the period covered by this quarterly report. Based on that evaluation, the Company's principal executive officer and principal financial officer concluded that, as of the end of the period covered by this quarterly report, the Company's disclosure controls and procedures were effective.
- (b) *Changes in internal controls.* There were no changes in the Company's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the period covered by this report that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

**Table of Contents****PART II. OTHER INFORMATION****Item 4. Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders**

The Annual Meeting of Shareholder the Company was held on May 13, 2008. At the meeting, the shareholders voted on the election of directors. A summary of the votes is as follows:

|                    | <b>For</b> | <b>Withhold Authority</b> |
|--------------------|------------|---------------------------|
| E. Townes Duncan   | 5,747,702  | 180,990                   |
| Garland G. Fritts  | 5,775,899  | 152,793                   |
| Brenda B. Rector   | 5,777,748  | 150,944                   |
| J. Bradbury Reed   | 4,426,537  | 1,502,155                 |
| Joseph N. Steakley | 5,754,004  | 174,688                   |
| Lonnie J. Stout II | 4,462,829  | 1,465,863                 |

**Item 6. Exhibits**

(a) Exhibits:

- Exhibit 31.1 Certification of the Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- Exhibit 31.2 Certification of the Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- Exhibit 32.1 Certification pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

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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 by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

**J. ALEXANDER S CORPORATION**

Date: August 13, 2008

/s/ Lonnie J. Stout II  
Lonnie J. Stout II  
Chairman, President and Chief Executive  
Officer  
(Principal Executive Officer)

Date: August 13, 2008

/s/ R. Gregory Lewis  
R. Gregory Lewis  
Vice President and Chief Financial Officer  
(Principal Financial Officer)

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**J. ALEXANDER S CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES  
INDEX TO EXHIBITS**

Exhibit No.

- Exhibit 31.1 Certification of the Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- Exhibit 31.2 Certification of the Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- Exhibit 32.1 Certification pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.