

UNITED NATURAL FOODS INC
Form 10-Q
June 05, 2008

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 April 26, 2008

OR

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

Commission File Number: 000-21531

UNITED NATURAL FOODS, INC.
(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Delaware
(State or Other Jurisdiction of
Incorporation or Organization)

05-0376157
(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

260 Lake Road Dayville, CT
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

06241
(Zip Code)

Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code: (860) 779-2800

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 definition of "accelerated filer," "large accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

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

Accelerated filer
Smaller reporting
company

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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 June 2, 2008 there were 42,873,930 shares of the Registrant's Common Stock, \$0.01 par value per share, outstanding.

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PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Item 1. Financial Statements

UNITED NATURAL FOODS, INC.
 CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS (Unaudited)
 (In thousands, except per share amounts)

| | April 26, 2008 | July 28, 2007 |
|--|-------------------|------------------|
| ASSETS | | |
| Current assets: | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$ 19,481 | \$ 17,010 |
| Accounts receivable, net of allowance of \$5,694 and \$4,416, respectively | 185,680 | 160,329 |
| Notes receivable, trade, net of allowance of \$68 and \$44, respectively | 1,544 | 1,836 |
| Inventories | 413,539 | 312,377 |
| Prepaid expenses and other current assets | 12,296 | 8,199 |
| Assets held for sale | - | 5,935 |
| Deferred income taxes | 9,474 | 9,474 |
| Total current assets | 642,014 | 515,160 |
| Property & equipment, net | 218,899 | 185,083 |
| Other assets: | | |
| Goodwill | 181,692 | 79,903 |
| Notes receivable, trade, net of allowance of \$1,157 and \$1,521, respectively | 2,870 | 2,647 |
| Intangible assets, net of accumulated amortization of \$425 and \$423, respectively | 28,877 | 8,552 |
| Other assets | 10,258 | 9,553 |
| Total assets | \$ 1,084,610 | \$ 800,898 |
| LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY | | |
| Current liabilities: | | |
| Notes payable | \$ 295,000 | \$ 120,000 |
| Accounts payable | 182,097 | 134,576 |
| Accrued expenses and other current liabilities | 64,880 | 37,132 |
| Current portion of long-term debt | 4,995 | 6,934 |
| Total current liabilities | 546,972 | 298,642 |
| Long-term debt, excluding current portion | 60,231 | 65,067 |
| Deferred income taxes | 1,201 | 9,555 |
| Other long-term liabilities | 10,454 | 839 |
| Total liabilities | 618,858 | 374,103 |
| Commitments and contingencies | | |
| Stockholders' equity: | | |
| Preferred stock, \$0.01 par value, authorized 5,000 shares; none issued or outstanding | - | - |
| Common stock, \$0.01 par value, authorized 100,000 shares; 43,103 issued and 42,874 outstanding shares at April 26, 2008; 43,051 issued and 42,822 outstanding shares at July 28, 2007 | 431 | 431 |

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| | | |
|---|--------------|------------|
| Additional paid-in capital | 168,088 | 163,473 |
| Unallocated shares of Employee Stock Ownership Plan | (1,081) | (1,203) |
| Treasury stock | (6,092) | (6,092) |
| Accumulated other comprehensive (loss) income | (1,041) | 399 |
| Retained earnings | 305,447 | 269,787 |
| Total stockholders' equity | 465,752 | 426,795 |
| Total liabilities and stockholders' equity | \$ 1,084,610 | \$ 800,898 |

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

UNITED NATURAL FOODS, INC.
 CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME (Unaudited)
 (In thousands, except per share data)

| | Three months ended | | Nine months ended | |
|--|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | April 26, 2008 | April 28, 2007 | April 26, 2008 | April 28, 2007 |
| Net sales | \$ 886,962 | \$ 732,516 | \$ 2,454,007 | \$ 2,047,494 |
| Cost of sales | 721,119 | 602,573 | 1,998,021 | 1,669,912 |
| Gross profit | 165,843 | 129,943 | 455,986 | 377,582 |
| Operating expenses | 141,018 | 104,818 | 387,384 | 307,126 |
| Impairment on assets held for sale | - | - | - | 756 |
| Total operating expenses | 141,018 | 104,818 | 387,384 | 307,882 |
| Operating income | 24,825 | 25,125 | 68,602 | 69,700 |
| Other expense (income): | | | | |
| Interest expense | 4,186 | 3,021 | 12,137 | 9,282 |
| Interest income | (140) | (324) | (472) | (618) |
| Other, net | 80 | (39) | 154 | 332 |
| Total other expense | 4,126 | 2,658 | 11,819 | 8,996 |
| Income before income taxes | 20,699 | 22,467 | 56,783 | 60,704 |
| Provision for income taxes | 7,700 | 8,762 | 21,123 | 23,675 |
| Net income | \$ 12,999 | \$ 13,705 | \$ 35,660 | \$ 37,029 |
| Basic per share data: | | | | |
| Net income | \$ 0.30 | \$ 0.32 | \$ 0.84 | \$ 0.87 |
| Weighted average basic shares of common stock | 42,727 | 42,595 | 42,678 | 42,396 |
| Diluted per share data: | | | | |
| Net income | \$ 0.30 | \$ 0.32 | \$ 0.83 | \$ 0.87 |
| Weighted average diluted shares of common stock | 42,847 | 42,884 | 42,858 | 42,784 |

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

UNITED NATURAL FOODS, INC.
 CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (Unaudited)
 (In thousands)

| | Nine months ended | |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|
| | April 26, 2008 | April 28, 2007 |
| CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES: | | |
| Net income | \$ 35,660 | \$ 37,029 |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash (used in) provided by operating activities: | | |
| Depreciation and amortization | 15,694 | 13,793 |
| Loss on disposals of property and equipment | 8 | 1,999 |
| Impairment on assets held for sale | - | 756 |
| Provision for doubtful accounts | 1,665 | 1,008 |
| Share-based compensation | 3,503 | 2,956 |
| Gain on forgiveness of loan | (157) | - |
| Changes in assets and liabilities, net of acquired companies: | | |
| Accounts receivable | (15,215) | (20,808) |
| Inventories | (77,007) | (43,391) |
| Prepaid expenses and other assets | (1,080) | (5,688) |
| Notes receivable, trade | 69 | 409 |
| Accounts payable | 2,074 | 25,829 |
| Accrued expenses | (1,663) | (2,029) |
| Income taxes payable | 923 | 636 |
| Net cash (used in) provided by operating activities | (35,526) | 12,499 |
| CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES: | | |
| Capital expenditures | (32,024) | (20,684) |
| Purchases of acquired businesses, net of cash acquired | (107,726) | (6,470) |
| Proceeds from disposals of property and equipment | - | 5,448 |
| Other investing activities | - | (1,042) |
| Net cash used in investing activities | (139,750) | (22,748) |
| CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES: | | |
| Net borrowings (repayments) under note payable | 175,000 | (11,004) |
| Repayments of long-term debt | (7,754) | (4,438) |
| Increase in bank overdraft | 9,482 | 6,246 |
| Proceeds from exercise of stock options | 848 | 7,086 |
| Tax benefit from exercise of stock options | 171 | 2,853 |
| Proceeds from borrowing of long-term debt | - | 10,000 |
| Principal payments of capital lease obligations | - | (4) |
| Net cash provided by financing activities | 177,747 | 10,739 |
| NET INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS | 2,471 | 490 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period | 17,010 | 20,054 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at end of period | \$ 19,481 | \$ 20,544 |
| Supplemental disclosures of cash flow information: | | |
| Cash paid during the period for: | | |
| Interest, net of amounts capitalized | \$ 11,431 | \$ 9,235 |
| Federal and state income taxes, net of refunds | \$ 18,877 | \$ 19,771 |

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Supplemental disclosure of noncash investing and financing activities:

| | | | | |
|-------------------------------|----|---|----|---------|
| Fair value of assets acquired | \$ | - | \$ | 8,498 |
| Cash paid for assets | | - | | (5,498) |
| Liabilities incurred | \$ | - | \$ | 3,000 |

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

UNITED NATURAL FOODS, INC.
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
April 26, 2008 (Unaudited)

1. BASIS OF PRESENTATION

United Natural Foods, Inc. (the “Company”) is a distributor and retailer of natural, organic and specialty products. The Company sells its products primarily throughout the United States.

The accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Company and its wholly owned subsidiaries. All significant intercompany transactions and balances have been eliminated in consolidation. Certain prior year amounts have been reclassified to conform to the current year's presentation.

The accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared pursuant to rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission for interim financial information, including the instructions to Form 10-Q and Rule 10-01 of Regulation S-X. Accordingly, certain information and footnote disclosures normally required in complete financial statements prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America have been condensed or omitted. In our opinion, these financial statements include all adjustments necessary for a fair presentation of the results of operations for the interim periods presented. The results of operations for interim periods, however, may not be indicative of the results that may be expected for a full year. These financial statements should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and footnotes thereto included in the Company’s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended July 28, 2007.

Net sales consists primarily of sales of natural, organic and specialty products to retailers adjusted for customer volume discounts, returns and allowances. Net sales also includes amounts due to the Company from customers for shipping and handling and fuel surcharges. The principal components of cost of sales include the amounts paid to manufacturers and growers for product sold, plus the cost of transportation necessary to bring the product to the Company’s distribution facilities. Cost of sales also includes amounts incurred by the Company’s manufacturing segment, Hershey Import Company, Inc. (“Hershey Imports”) for inbound transportation costs and depreciation for manufacturing equipment, and consideration received from suppliers in connection with the purchase or promotion of the suppliers’ products. Operating expenses include salaries and wages, employee benefits (including payments under the Company’s Employee Stock Ownership Plan), warehousing and delivery (including shipping and handling), selling, occupancy, insurance, administrative, share-based compensation and amortization expense. Operating expenses also includes depreciation expense related to our wholesale and retail divisions. Other expense (income) includes interest on outstanding indebtedness, interest income, and miscellaneous income and expenses.

2. SHARE-BASED COMPENSATION

The Company has a share-based compensation program that provides our Board of Directors broad discretion in creating employee equity incentives. This program includes incentive and non-statutory stock options and nonvested stock awards (consisting of awards of restricted stock and restricted stock units). These awards to employees are granted under various plans which are stockholder approved. Stock options are generally time-based, vesting 25% on each annual anniversary of the grant date over four years and generally expire ten years from the grant date. Awards of restricted stock and restricted stock units to employees are generally time-based and vest 25% on each annual anniversary of the grant date over four years. As of April 26, 2008, we had approximately 0.8 million shares of common stock reserved for future issuance under our share-based compensation plans.

The Company recognizes share-based compensation expense in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board (the “FASB”) Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (“SFAS”) No. 123 (revised 2004), Share-Based

Payment (“SFAS 123(R)”) over the requisite service period of the individual grants, which generally equals the vesting period. The Company recognized share-based compensation expense for the three months ended April 26, 2008 and April 28, 2007 of \$1.1 million and \$1.0 million, respectively. For the nine months ended April 26, 2008 and April 28, 2007, the Company recognized \$3.5 million and \$3.0 million, respectively, of share-based compensation expense. The effect on net income from recognizing share-based compensation for the three months ended April 26, 2008 and April 28, 2007 was \$0.7 million, or \$0.02 per basic and diluted share, and \$0.6 million, or \$0.01 per basic and diluted share, respectively. The effect on net income from recognizing share-based compensation for the nine months ended April 26, 2008 and April 28, 2007 was \$2.2 million, or \$0.05 per basic and diluted share, and \$1.8 million, or \$0.04 per basic and diluted share, respectively. The Company recorded related tax benefits for the nine months ended April 26, 2008 and April 28, 2007 of \$0.2 million and \$2.9 million, respectively.

As of April 26, 2008, there was \$11.0 million of total unrecognized compensation cost related to outstanding share-based compensation arrangements (including stock option, restricted stock and restricted stock unit awards). This cost is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average period of 1.8 years.

There were no option awards granted during the three months ended April 26, 2008. The weighted average grant-date fair value of options granted during the nine months ended April 26, 2008 and April 28, 2007 was \$7.34 and \$10.53, respectively. The fair value of stock option awards was estimated using the Black-Scholes model with the following weighted-average assumptions for the three months and nine months ended April 26, 2008 and April 28, 2007, respectively:

| | Three months ended | | Nine months ended | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | April 26, 2008 | April 28, 2007 | April 26, 2008 | April 28, 2007 |
| Expected volatility | - | 33.7% | 32.7% | 34.6% |
| Dividend yield | - | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| Risk free interest rate | - | 4.6% | 3.1% | 4.5% |
| Expected life | - | 3.0 years | 3.0 years | 3.0 years |

Our computation of expected volatility is based on the historical volatility of the Company's stock price. Our computation of expected life is based on historical exercise patterns and other factors. The interest rate for periods within the contractual life of the award is based on the U.S. Treasury yield curve in effect at the time of grant.

3. ACQUISITIONS

During the nine months ended April 26, 2008, the Company acquired substantially all of the assets and liabilities of three companies and one retail store outside of the wholesale segment. The total cash consideration paid for these product lines and retail store was approximately \$22.2 million, in addition to approximately \$1.1 million of holdbacks recorded in accrued expenses in the consolidated balance sheets. No goodwill was recorded in connection with the product line acquisitions. Goodwill of \$0.6 million was recorded in connection with the retail store acquisition. Other intangible assets acquired were \$20.5 million. The cash paid was financed by borrowings under the Company's existing revolving credit facility.

On November 2, 2007, the Company acquired Distribution Holdings, Inc. ("DHI") and its wholly-owned subsidiary Millbrook Distribution Services, Inc. ("Millbrook"). Total cash consideration paid in connection with the merger was \$85.4 million, including the \$84.0 million purchase price and \$1.4 million of related transaction fees incurred, subject to certain adjustments set forth in the merger agreement. Prior to the acquisition and during the three months ended October 27, 2007, the Company entered into a note receivable from DHI in the amount of \$5.0 million, which was assumed by the Company as part of the purchase price. This acquisition was financed through borrowings under the Company's existing revolving credit facility, which was amended in November 2007 to increase the Company's maximum borrowing base thereunder. See Note 8 for a description of these amendments.

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The Company is in the process of making the final purchase price allocation for the Millbrook acquisition and has engaged a third party valuation firm to independently appraise the fair value of certain assets acquired. The following table presents the preliminary allocation of fair values of assets and liabilities recorded in connection with the Millbrook acquisition (in thousands):

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Cash | \$ (142) |
| Accounts receivable | 10,466 |
| Inventories | 22,714 |
| Prepaid expenses and other current assets | 2,280 |
| Property & equipment, net | 8,097 |
| Goodwill | 101,171 |
| Other assets | 8,548 |
| | 153,134 |
| Accounts payable | 35,485 |
| Accrued expenses and other current liabilities | 23,062 |
| Other long-term liabilities | 9,205 |
| Cash consideration paid | \$ 85,382 |

Results of operations of the acquired companies have been included in the Company's consolidated statements of income since the respective dates of acquisition. The following table presents the Company's unaudited pro forma results of operations assuming that the acquisitions discussed above had occurred as of the beginning of fiscal 2007 (in thousands). These pro forma results are not necessarily indicative of the results that will occur in future periods.

| | Three months ended | | Nine months ended | |
|----------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | April 26, 2008 | April 28, 2007 | April 26, 2008 | April 28, 2007 |
| Net sales | \$ 887,011 | \$ 817,314 | \$ 2,828,640 | \$ 2,606,732 |
| Income before income taxes | 20,699 | 20,913 | 47,522 | 58,077 |
| Net income | 12,918 | 12,815 | 29,657 | 35,588 |
| Earnings per common share: | | | | |
| Basic | \$ 0.30 | \$ 0.30 | \$ 0.69 | \$ 0.84 |
| Diluted | \$ 0.30 | \$ 0.30 | \$ 0.69 | \$ 0.83 |

4. EARNINGS PER SHARE

Following is a reconciliation of the basic and diluted number of shares used in computing earnings per share:

| (In thousands) | Three months ended | | Nine months ended | |
|---|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | April 26, 2008 | April 28, 2007 | April 26, 2008 | April 28, 2007 |
| Basic weighted average shares outstanding | 42,727 | 42,595 | 42,678 | 42,396 |
| Net effect of dilutive stock options based upon the treasury stock method | 120 | 289 | 180 | 388 |
| | 42,847 | 42,884 | 42,858 | 42,784 |

Diluted weighted average shares
outstanding

There were 895,218 and 321,040 anti-dilutive stock options outstanding for the three months ended April 26, 2008 and April 28, 2007, respectively. For the nine months ended April 26, 2008 and April 28, 2007, there were 892,218 and 309,040 anti-dilutive stock options outstanding, respectively. These anti-dilutive stock options were excluded from the calculation of diluted earnings per share.

5. DERIVATIVE FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

On August 1, 2005, the Company entered into an interest rate swap agreement effective July 29, 2005. The agreement provides for the Company to pay interest for a seven-year period at a fixed rate of 4.70% on a notional principal amount of \$50.0 million while receiving interest for the same period at the one-month London Interbank Offered Rate (“LIBOR”) on the same notional principal amount. The swap has been entered into as a hedge against LIBOR interest rate movements on current variable rate indebtedness totaling \$50.0 million at one-month LIBOR plus 1.00%, thereby fixing its effective rate on the notional amount at 5.70%. The swap agreement qualified as an “effective” hedge under SFAS No. 133, Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities (“SFAS 133”). One-month LIBOR was 2.70% and 5.32% as of April 26, 2008 and April 28, 2007, respectively.

The Company may from time to time enter into commodity swap agreements to reduce price risk associated with anticipated purchases of diesel fuel. These commodity swap agreements hedge a portion of the Company’s expected fuel usage for the periods set forth in the agreements. The Company monitors the commodity (NYMEX #2 Heating oil) used in its swap agreements to determine that the correlation between the commodity and diesel fuel is deemed to be “highly effective.” At April 26, 2008, the Company had no outstanding commodity swap agreements. At April 28, 2007, the Company had one outstanding commodity swap agreement which matured on June 30, 2007.

Interest rate swap and commodity swap agreements are designated as cash flow hedges and are reflected at fair value in the Company’s consolidated balance sheet and related gains or losses, net of income taxes, are deferred in stockholders’ equity as a component of accumulated other comprehensive income (loss). The Company does not enter into derivative agreements for trading purposes.

6. COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

Total comprehensive income for the three months ended April 26, 2008 and April 28, 2007 amounted to approximately \$13.3 million and \$14.0 million, respectively. Total comprehensive income for the nine months ended April 26, 2008 and April 28, 2007 was approximately \$34.2 million and \$36.0 million, respectively. Comprehensive income is comprised of net income plus the change in the fair value of the interest rate swap agreement and for the three months ended April 28, 2007, the commodity swap agreement discussed in Note 5. For both the three months ended April 26, 2008 and April 28, 2007, the change in fair value of these financial instruments was a \$0.5 million pre-tax gain (\$0.3 million after-tax gain). The change in fair value of these derivative financial instruments was a \$2.3 million pre-tax loss (\$1.4 million after-tax loss) and a \$1.7 million pre-tax loss (\$1.1 million after-tax loss) for the nine months ended April 26, 2008 and April 28, 2007, respectively.

7. ASSETS HELD FOR SALE

In the year ended July 28, 2007, the Company transitioned its remaining Auburn, California operations to its Rocklin, California facility, determined to sell the second Auburn, California facility and related assets and recorded an impairment loss of \$0.8 million with respect to that facility. The impairment loss was recognized based on management’s estimate of fair value of the facility, less costs of disposal. As a result, the Company reclassified, to assets held for sale, \$5.9 million of long-lived assets, net of the \$0.8 million impairment loss, that were previously included in property and equipment in accordance with SFAS 144, Accounting for the Impairment or Disposal of Long-lived Assets. During the nine months ended April 26, 2008, the Company decided not to sell the second Auburn, California facility and related assets due to a need for additional warehouse space in northern California. This resulted in the recording of catch up depreciation of \$0.2 million during the nine months ended April 26, 2008 and the reclassification of \$5.9 million of assets held for sale to property and equipment, net.

8. DEBT

On November 2, 2007, the Company amended its \$250 million secured revolving credit facility with a bank group led by Bank of America Business Capital as the administrative agent. The amendment temporarily increased the maximum borrowing base under the credit facility from \$250 million to \$270 million.

On November 27, 2007, the Company amended its \$270 million secured revolving credit facility with a bank group led by Bank of America Business Capital as the administrative agent. The amendment increased the maximum borrowing base under the credit facility from \$270 million to \$400 million and provides the Company with a one-time option, subject to approval by the lenders under the credit facility, to increase the borrowing base by up to an additional \$50 million. Interest accrues on borrowings under the credit facility, at the Company's option, at either the base rate (the applicable prime lending rate of Bank of America Business Capital, as announced from time to time) or at one-month LIBOR plus 0.75%. The \$400 million credit facility matures on November 27, 2012.

In connection with the amendments to the amended and restated revolving credit facility described above, effective November 2, 2007 and November 27, 2007, the Company amended its term loan agreement to conform certain terms and conditions to the corresponding terms and conditions in the credit agreement that establishes the amended and restated revolving credit facility (the "Amended Credit Agreement").

The Company further amended the Amended Credit Agreement and the term loan agreement following the end of its fiscal quarter ended April 26, 2008. See Note 11 for additional information regarding these amendments.

9. BUSINESS SEGMENTS

The Company has several operating divisions aggregated under the wholesale segment, which is the Company's only reportable segment. These operating divisions have similar products and services, customer channels, distribution methods and historical margins. The wholesale segment is engaged in national distribution of natural, organic and specialty foods, produce, and related products in the United States. The Company has additional operating divisions that do not meet the quantitative thresholds for reportable segments. Therefore, these operating divisions are aggregated under the caption of "Other" with corporate operating expenses that are not allocated to operating divisions. Non-operating expenses that are not allocated to the operating divisions are under the caption of "Unallocated Expenses." "Other" includes a retail division, which engages in the sale of natural foods and related products to the general public through retail storefronts on the east coast of the United States, and a manufacturing division, which engages in importing, roasting and packaging nuts, seeds, dried fruit and snack items. "Other" also includes corporate expenses, which consist of salaries, retainers, and other related expenses of officers, directors, corporate finance (including professional services), governance, human resources and internal audit that are necessary to operate the Company's headquarters located in Dayville, Connecticut.

Following is business segment information for the periods indicated (in thousands):

| | Wholesale | Other | Eliminations | Unallocated Expenses | Consolidated |
|------------------------------------|------------|-----------|--------------|----------------------|--------------|
| Three months ended April 26, 2008: | | | | | |
| Net sales | \$ 870,188 | \$ 39,026 | \$ (22,252) | | \$ 886,962 |
| Operating income (loss) | 27,496 | (1,890) | (781) | | 24,825 |
| Interest expense | | | | \$ 4,186 | 4,186 |
| Interest income | | | | (140) | (140) |
| Other, net | | | | 80 | 80 |
| Income before income taxes | | | | | 20,699 |
| Depreciation and amortization | 5,246 | 289 | | | 5,535 |
| Capital expenditures | 10,135 | 424 | | | 10,559 |
| Goodwill | 165,203 | 16,489 | | | 181,692 |
| Total assets | 975,827 | 118,780 | (9,997) | | 1,084,610 |
| Three months ended April 28, 2007: | | | | | |
| Net sales | \$ 720,219 | \$ 30,486 | \$ (18,189) | | \$ 732,516 |
| Operating income (loss) | 26,475 | 196 | (1,546) | | 25,125 |
| Interest expense | | | | \$ 3,021 | 3,021 |
| Interest income | | | | (324) | (324) |
| Other, net | | | | (39) | (39) |
| Income before income taxes | | | | | 22,467 |

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| | | | | |
|-------------------------------|---------|--------|---------|---------|
| Depreciation and amortization | 4,165 | 250 | - | 4,415 |
| Goodwill | 64,032 | 15,868 | | 79,900 |
| Capital expenditures | 3,520 | 2,623 | - | 6,143 |
| Total assets | 697,759 | 87,662 | (7,828) | 777,593 |

| | Wholesale | Other | Eliminations | Unallocated Expenses | Consolidated |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|------------|--------------|----------------------|--------------|
| Nine months ended April 26, 2008: | | | | | |
| Net sales | \$ 2,414,195 | \$ 101,926 | \$ (62,114) | | \$ 2,454,007 |
| Operating income (loss) | 70,890 | (1,050) | (1,238) | | 68,602 |
| Interest expense | | | | \$ 12,137 | 12,137 |
| Interest income | | | | (472) | (472) |
| Other, net | | | | 154 | 154 |
| Income before income taxes | | | | | 56,783 |
| Depreciation and amortization | 14,823 | 871 | | | 15,694 |
| Capital expenditures | 31,183 | 841 | | | 32,024 |
| Goodwill | 165,203 | 16,489 | | | 181,692 |
| Total assets | 975,827 | 118,780 | (9,997) | | 1,084,610 |
| Nine months ended April 28, 2007: | | | | | |
| Net sales | \$ 2,013,548 | \$ 83,455 | \$ (49,509) | | \$ 2,047,494 |
| Operating income (loss) | 71,731 | 1,619 | (3,650) | | 69,700 |
| Interest expense | | | | \$ 9,282 | 9,282 |
| Interest income | | | | (618) | (618) |
| Other, net | | | | 332 | 332 |
| Income before income taxes | | | | | 60,704 |
| Depreciation and amortization | 13,076 | 717 | - | | 13,793 |
| Capital expenditures | 17,721 | 2,963 | - | | 20,684 |
| Goodwill | 64,032 | 15,868 | | | 79,900 |
| Total assets | 697,759 | 87,662 | (7,828) | | 777,593 |

10. NEW ACCOUNTING PRONOUNCEMENTS

On July 29, 2007, the Company adopted FASB Interpretation No. 48, Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes – an interpretation of FASB Statement No. 109 ("FIN 48"), which applies to all tax positions accounted for under SFAS No. 109, Accounting for Income Taxes. FIN 48 prescribes a two step process for the measurement of uncertain tax positions that have been taken or are expected to be taken in a tax return. The first step is a determination of whether the tax position should be recognized in the financial statements. The second step determines the measurement of the tax position. FIN 48 also provides guidance on de-recognition of such tax positions, classification, potential interest and penalties, accounting in interim periods and disclosure. We did not have any unrecognized tax benefits and there was no effect on our consolidated financial statements as a result of adopting FIN 48.

The Company and its subsidiaries file income tax returns in the United States federal jurisdiction and in various state jurisdictions. The Company is no longer subject to U.S. federal tax examinations for years before the Company's fiscal 2004. The tax years that remain subject to examination by state jurisdictions range from the Company's fiscal 2002 to 2007. In the normal course of business, the Company is regularly audited by U.S. federal, state and local tax authorities in various tax jurisdictions. The ultimate resolution of these matters, including those that may be resolved within the next twelve months, is not yet determinable.

Our policy to include interest and penalties related to unrecognized tax benefits as a component of income tax expense did not change as a result of implementing FIN 48. As of the date of adoption of FIN 48, we did not have any accrued

interest or penalties associated with any unrecognized tax benefits, nor was any interest expense recognized during the quarter.

In September 2006, the FASB issued SFAS No. 157, Fair Value Measurements (“SFAS 157”). SFAS 157 defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value and requires enhanced disclosures about fair value measurements under other accounting pronouncements, but does not change the existing guidance as to whether or not an instrument is carried at fair value. The statement is effective for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007. The Company will adopt SFAS 157 in fiscal 2009 and is currently evaluating whether the adoption of SFAS 157 will have a material effect on its consolidated financial statements.

In February 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 159, The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities (“SFAS 159”). SFAS 159 permits entities to choose to measure many financial instruments and certain other items at fair value and establishes presentation and disclosure requirements designed to facilitate comparisons between entities that choose different measurement attributes for similar types of assets and liabilities. The statement is effective for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007. The Company will adopt SFAS 159 in fiscal 2009 and is currently evaluating whether the adoption of SFAS 159 will have a material effect on its consolidated financial statements.

In December 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 160, Non-controlling Interests in Consolidated Financial Statements, an Amendment of ARB No. 51 (“SFAS 160”). This statement establishes accounting and reporting standards for the non-controlling interest in a subsidiary and for the deconsolidation of a subsidiary. This statement is effective for fiscal years beginning on or after December 15, 2008. The Company does not expect the adoption of SFAS 160 to have a material effect on its consolidated financial statements.

In March 2008, the FASB issued SFAS No. 161, Disclosures about Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities-an Amendment of SFAS No. 133 (“SFAS 161”). SFAS 161 enhances required disclosures regarding derivatives and hedging activities, including enhanced disclosures regarding how: (a) an entity uses derivative instruments; (b) derivative instruments and related hedged items are accounted for under SFAS No. 133, Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities; and (c) derivative instruments and related hedged items affect an entity's financial position, financial performance, and cash flows. SFAS No. 161 is effective for fiscal years and interim periods beginning after November 15, 2008 and early adoption is permitted. The Company does not expect the adoption of SFAS 161 to have a material effect on the disclosures that accompany its consolidated financial statements.

11. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Amendments to credit facilities

On June 4, 2008, the Company entered into amendments, which were effective as of May 28, 2008, to the Amended Credit Agreement and the term loan agreement in order to (i) waive events of default as a result of the Company's noncompliance at April 26, 2008 with the fixed charge coverage ratio covenants under the Amended Credit Agreement and the term loan agreement (the “Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio Covenants”), (ii) increase the interest rate applicable to borrowings under each of the Company's amended and restated revolving credit facility and term loan by 0.25% during the period from June 1, 2008 through the date on which the Company demonstrates compliance with the applicable Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio Covenant, and (iii) exclude non-cash share based compensation expense from the calculation of EBITDA (as defined in the applicable agreement) in connection with the calculation of the fixed charge coverage ratio under the Amended Credit Agreement and the term loan agreement. The Amended Credit Agreement and the term loan agreement, as amended, require the Company to maintain a minimum fixed charge coverage ratio of 1.5 to 1.0 and 1.45 to 1.0, respectively, each calculated at the end of each of the Company's fiscal quarters on a rolling four quarter basis. The principal reason for the Company's noncompliance with the Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio Covenants was the Company's high level of capital expenditures in the trailing twelve month period ending April 26, 2008.

Mediation of lawsuit

United Natural Foods West, Inc., a subsidiary of the Company, has been named as a defendant in a purported class action brought by a former employee in the Superior Court of California, Placer County. The lawsuit alleges that United Natural Foods West violated certain provisions of California state employment law. The parties have submitted the matter to mediation for possible settlement and settlement discussions are ongoing. The Company does not believe that the ultimate settlement of this matter will have a material effect on the Company's consolidated financial statements.

Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

This Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q contains forward-looking statements that involve substantial risks and uncertainties. In some cases you can identify these statements by forward-looking words such as "anticipate," "believe," "could," "estimate," "expect," "intend," "may," "should," "will," and "would," or similar words. You should read statements that contain these words carefully because they discuss future expectations, contain projections of future results of operations or of financial condition or state other "forward-looking" information. The risk factors listed in Item 1A of Part II of this report, as well as any cautionary language elsewhere in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, provide examples of risks, uncertainties and events that may cause our actual results to differ materially from the expectations described in these forward-looking statements. You should be aware that the occurrence of the events described in the risk factors in Item 1A of Part II of this report and elsewhere in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q could have an adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

Any forward-looking statements in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q are not guarantees of future performance, and actual results, developments and business decisions may differ from those envisaged by such forward-looking statements, possibly materially. We do not undertake any obligation to update any information in this report until the effective date of our future reports required by applicable laws. Any projections of future results of operations should not be construed in any manner as a guarantee that such results will in fact occur. These projections are subject to change and could differ materially from final reported results. We may from time to time update these publicly announced projections, but we are not obligated to do so.

Overview

We are a leading national distributor of natural, organic and specialty foods and related products in the United States. In recent years, our sales to existing and new customers have increased through the continued growth of the natural and organic products industry in general; increased market share through our high quality service and a broader product selection, and the acquisition of, or merger with, natural and specialty products distributors; the expansion of our existing distribution centers; the construction of new distribution centers; and the development of our own line of natural and organic branded products.

On November 2, 2007, we acquired Distribution Holdings, Inc. ("DHI") and its wholly-owned subsidiary Millbrook Distribution Services, Inc. ("Millbrook") for total cash consideration of \$85.4 million, including the \$84.0 million purchase price and \$1.4 million of related transaction fees, subject to certain adjustments set forth in the merger agreement. Millbrook operates three distribution centers in Massachusetts, New Jersey, and Arkansas and has approximately 950 employees located throughout the United States. Through our Millbrook division's three distribution centers, which provide approximately 1.6 million square feet of warehouse space, we distribute specialty food items (including ethnic, kosher, gourmet, organic and natural foods), health and beauty care items and other non-food items to more than 9,000 retail locations.

We believe that the acquisition of Millbrook accomplishes several of the Company's strategic objectives, including accelerating the Company's expansion into a number of high-growth business segments and establishing immediate market share in the fast-growing specialty foods market. We believe that Millbrook's customer base enhances the Company's conventional supermarket business channel and that the organizations' complementary product lines present opportunities for cross-selling.

We also own and operate 13 retail natural products stores, located primarily in Florida, through our subsidiary, the Natural Retail Group. We believe that our retail business serves as a natural complement to our distribution business because it enables us to develop new marketing programs and improve customer service. In addition, our subsidiary, Hershey Import Company, Inc. ("Hershey Imports"), specializes in the importing, roasting and packaging of nuts, seeds,

dried fruits and snack items. Our operations are comprised of three principal divisions:

- our wholesale division, which includes our broadline distribution business, Albert's Organics, Millbrook and Select Nutrition;
- our retail division, which consists of our 13 retail stores; and
- our manufacturing division, which is comprised of Hershey Imports and our branded product lines.

In order to maintain our market leadership and improve our operating efficiencies, we continually seek to:

- expand our marketing and customer service programs across regions;
- expand our national purchasing opportunities;
- offer a broader product selection;
- consolidate systems applications among physical locations and regions;
- increase our investment in people, facilities, equipment and technology; and
- reduce geographic overlap between regions.

Our continued growth has created the need for expansion of existing facilities to achieve maximum operating efficiencies and to assure adequate space for future needs. In April 2008, we announced plans to lease a new 675,000 square foot distribution center in York, Pennsylvania to serve our customers in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Ohio, Virginia and West Virginia. Operations are scheduled to commence near the end of calendar year 2008. In January 2008, we announced plans to lease a new, 613,000 square foot distribution center in Moreno Valley, California to serve our customers in Southern California, Arizona, Southern Nevada, Southern Utah, and Hawaii. Operations are scheduled to commence during the summer of 2008. Our new 237,000 square foot distribution center in Ridgefield, Washington commenced operations in December 2007 and serves as a regional distribution hub for customers in Portland, Oregon and other Northwest states. We opened our Sarasota, Florida warehouse in the first quarter of fiscal 2008 in order to reduce the geographic area served by our Atlanta, Georgia facility, which we believe will contribute to lower transportation costs. We have made significant capital expenditures and incurred considerable expenses in connection with the opening and expansion of facilities.

With the opening of the Sarasota and Ridgefield facilities as well as our acquisition of four Millbrook facilities, we have added approximately 3,700,000 square feet to our distribution centers since fiscal 2002, representing a 200% increase in our distribution capacity. Our current capacity utilization is approximately 71%.

Net sales consists primarily of sales of natural, organic and specialty products to retailers, adjusted for customer volume discounts, returns and allowances. Net sales also includes amounts due to us from customers for shipping and handling and fuel surcharges. The principal components of our cost of sales include the amounts paid to manufacturers and growers for product sold, plus the cost of transportation necessary to bring the product to our distribution facilities. Cost of sales also includes amounts incurred by us for inbound transportation costs and depreciation for manufacturing equipment at our manufacturing subsidiary, Hershey Imports, and consideration received from suppliers in connection with the purchase or promotion of the suppliers' products. Total operating expenses include salaries and wages, employee benefits (including payments under our Employee Stock Ownership Plan), warehousing and delivery (including shipping and handling), selling, occupancy, insurance, administrative, share-based compensation, depreciation and amortization expense. Other expense (income) includes interest on our outstanding indebtedness, interest income and miscellaneous income and expenses. Our gross margin may not be comparable to other similar companies within our industry that may include all costs related to their distribution network in their costs of sales rather than as operating expenses. We include costs to support the purchasing department and outbound transportation expenses within our operating expenses rather than in our cost of sales.

In August 2007, Whole Foods Market, Inc. ("Whole Foods Market") and Wild Oats Markets, Inc. ("Wild Oats Markets") completed their previously-announced merger, as a result of which, Wild Oats Markets became a wholly-owned subsidiary of Whole Foods Market. Whole Foods Market sold all thirty-five of Wild Oats Markets' Henry's and Sun

Harvest store locations to a subsidiary of Smart & Final Inc. on September 30, 2007. On a combined basis and excluding sales to Henry's and Sun Harvest store locations, Whole Foods Market and Wild Oats Markets accounted for approximately 32.0% and 33.5% of our net sales for the three months and nine months ended April 26, 2008, respectively. On a combined basis and excluding sales to Henry's and Sun Harvest store locations, Whole Foods Market and Wild Oats Markets accounted for approximately 35.9% and 34.5% of our net sales for the three months and nine months ended April 28, 2007, respectively.

Critical Accounting Policies

The preparation of our consolidated financial statements requires us to make estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses, and related disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. The Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) has defined critical accounting policies as those that are both most important to the portrayal of our financial condition and results of operations and require our most difficult, complex or subjective judgments or estimates. Based on this definition, we believe our critical accounting policies include the following: (i) determining our allowance for doubtful accounts, (ii) determining our reserves for the self-insured portions of our workers’ compensation and automobile liabilities and (iii) valuing goodwill and intangible assets. For all financial statement periods presented, there have been no material modifications to the application of these critical accounting policies.

Allowance for doubtful accounts

We analyze customer creditworthiness, accounts receivable balances, payment history, payment terms and historical bad debt levels when evaluating the adequacy of our allowance for doubtful accounts. In instances where a reserve has been recorded for a particular customer, future sales to the customer are conducted using cash-on-delivery terms or the account is closely monitored so that as agreed upon payments are received, orders are released; a failure to pay results in held or cancelled orders. Our accounts receivable balance was \$185.7 million and \$160.3 million, net of the allowance for doubtful accounts of \$5.7 million and \$4.4 million, as of April 26, 2008 and July 28, 2007, respectively. Our notes receivable balances were \$4.4 million and \$4.5 million, net of the allowance of doubtful accounts of \$1.2 million and \$1.6 million, as of April 26, 2008 and July 28, 2007, respectively.

Insurance reserves

It is our policy to record the self-insured portions of our workers’ compensation and automobile liabilities based upon actuarial methods of estimating the future cost of claims and related expenses that have been reported but not settled, and that have been incurred but not yet reported. Any projection of losses concerning workers’ compensation and automobile liability is subject to a considerable degree of variability. Among the causes of this variability are unpredictable external factors affecting litigation trends, benefit level changes and claim settlement patterns. If actual claims incurred are greater than those anticipated, our reserves may be insufficient and additional costs could be recorded in the consolidated financial statements. Accruals for workers’ compensation and automobile liabilities totaled \$13.0 million and \$8.5 million as of April 26, 2008 and July 28, 2007, respectively.

Valuation of goodwill and intangible assets

Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (“SFAS”) No. 142, Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets, requires that companies test goodwill for impairment at least annually and between annual tests if events occur or circumstances change that would more likely than not reduce the fair value of a reporting unit below its carrying amount. We have elected to perform our annual tests for indications of goodwill impairment during the fourth quarter of each year. Impairment losses are determined based upon the excess of carrying amounts over discounted expected future cash flows of the underlying business. The assessment of the recoverability of long-lived assets will be impacted if estimated future cash flows are not achieved. For reporting units that indicate potential impairment, we determine the implied fair value of that reporting unit using a discounted cash flow analysis and compare such values to the respective reporting units’ carrying amounts. Total goodwill as of April 26, 2008 and July 28, 2007 was \$181.7 million and \$79.9 million, respectively.

Results of Operations

The following table presents, for the periods indicated, certain income and expense items expressed as a percentage of net sales:

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| | Three months ended | | Nine months ended | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | April 26, 2008 | April 28, 2007 | April 26, 2008 | April 28, 2007 |
| Net sales | 100.0% | 100.0% | 100.0% | 100.0% |
| Cost of sales | 81.3% | 82.3% | 81.4% | 81.6% |
| Gross profit | 18.7% | 17.7% | 18.6% | 18.4% |
| Operating expenses | 15.9% | 14.3% | 15.8% | 15.0% |
| Impairment on assets held for sale | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| Total operating expenses | 15.9% | 14.3% | 15.8% | 15.0% |
| Operating income | 2.8% | 3.4% | 2.8% | 3.4% |
| Other expense (income): | | | | |
| Interest expense | 0.5% | 0.4% | 0.5% | 0.5% |
| Interest income | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| Other, net | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| Total other expense | 0.5% | 0.4% | 0.5% | 0.4%* |
| Income before income taxes | 2.3% | 3.1%* | 2.3% | 3.0% |
| Provision for income taxes | 0.9% | 1.2% | 0.9% | 1.2% |
| Net income | 1.5%* | 1.9% | 1.5%* | 1.8% |

* Total reflects rounding

Three Months Ended April 26, 2008 Compared To Three Months Ended April 28, 2007

Net Sales

Our net sales increased approximately 21.1%, or \$154.4 million, to \$887.0 million for the three months ended April 26, 2008, from \$732.5 million for the three months ended April 28, 2007. This increase was primarily due to sales from our newly acquired Millbrook business of \$77.2 million as well as organic sales growth (sales growth excluding the impact of acquisitions) in our wholesale division of \$72.7 million. Our organic growth is due to the continued growth of the natural products industry in general and the opening of new distribution centers, which allows us to carry a broader selection of products.

On a combined basis, and excluding sales to Henry's and Sun Harvest store locations, which were divested by Whole Foods Market following its merger with Wild Oats Markets, Whole Foods Market and Wild Oats Markets accounted for approximately 32.0% and 35.9% of our net sales for the three months ended April 26, 2008 and April 28, 2007, respectively. The Henry's and Sun Harvest locations divested by Whole Foods Market remain our customers.

The following table lists the percentage of sales by customer type for the three months ended April 26, 2008 and April 28, 2007:

| Customer type | Percentage of Net Sales |
|---------------|----------------------------|
|---------------|----------------------------|

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| | 2008 | 2007 |
|--|------|------|
| Independently owned natural products retailers | 41% | 45% |
| Supernatural chains | 32% | 36% |
| Conventional supermarkets | 22% | 15% |
| Other | 5% | 4% |

Sales to Henry's and Sun Harvest store locations have been reclassified from our supernatural channel into our supermarket channel in both the current and prior year and will continue in this classification going forward. This reclassification resulted in an increase in sales in the supermarket channel of 1.6% and a decrease in sales in the supernatural channel of 1.6% for the three months ended April 28, 2007.

Sales by channel have been adjusted to properly reflect changes in customer types resulting from a review of our customer lists. As a result of this adjustment, sales to the independents and other channels increased 1.1% and 0.5%, respectively, for the three months ended April 28, 2007 and sales to the supermarket channel decreased 1.6% for the three months ended April 28, 2007.

Compared to sales for the three months ended April 28, 2007, sales in the supermarket channel were positively impacted for the three months ended April 26, 2008 by our acquisition of Millbrook and negatively impacted for the three months ended April 26, 2008 by the loss of a key customer in the first quarter of fiscal 2008.

Gross Profit

Our gross profit increased approximately 27.6%, or \$35.9 million, to \$165.8 million for the three months ended April 26, 2008, from \$129.9 million for the three months ended April 28, 2007. Our gross profit as a percentage of net sales was 18.7% and 17.7% for the three months ended April 26, 2008 and April 28, 2007, respectively. Gross profit as a percentage of net sales during the three months ended April 26, 2008 was positively impacted by sales from our Millbrook business and sales through our branded product lines. We have worked to take advantage of forward buying opportunities during the three months ended April 26, 2008 in order to improve Millbrook's gross margin. We expect Millbrook's full service supermarket model to generate a higher gross margin over the long-term in our core distribution business; however, we also expect to incur higher operating expenses in providing those services. Gross profit as a percentage of net sales during the three months ended April 28, 2007 was negatively impacted by missed forward buying opportunities and \$1.9 million of incremental inventory adjustments in our broadline distribution business. We intend to increase our emphasis on sales of branded products, which we believe will allow us to generate higher gross margins over the long-term, as branded product revenues generally yield relatively higher margins.

Operating Expenses

Our total operating expenses increased approximately 34.5%, or \$36.2 million, to \$141.0 million for the three months ended April 26, 2008, from \$104.8 million for the three months ended April 28, 2007. The increase in total operating expenses for the three months ended April 26, 2008 was due primarily to increases in infrastructure, fuel and personnel costs within our wholesale division of approximately \$29.7 million, as a result of the Millbrook acquisition and to support our continued sales growth. We have been able to partially offset the effect of rising fuel prices by increasing delivery sizes, improving route design and by opening new facilities which reduce the total distance traveled to customers. We also incurred higher operating expenses during the three months ended April 26, 2008 related to our branded product lines as we have built our infrastructure to support anticipated growing business. Operating expenses for the three months ended April 28, 2007 included \$0.5 million of increased expense related to our fuel hedging program. The last of our fuel hedges expired in June 2007 and we have not entered into any fuel hedges during fiscal 2008. Total operating expenses for the three months ended April 26, 2008 includes share-based compensation expense of \$1.1 million. Share-based compensation expense for the three months ended April 28, 2007 was \$1.0 million. See Note 2 to our condensed consolidated financial statements.

As a percentage of net sales, total operating expenses increased to approximately 15.9% for the three months ended April 26, 2008, from approximately 14.3% for the three months ended April 28, 2007. The increase in operating expenses as a percentage of net sales was primarily attributable to our acquisition of Millbrook, our investment in infrastructure for our branded product lines, and continued operating inefficiencies related to the opening of our

Sarasota, Florida and Ridgefield, Washington distribution facilities. Despite these inefficiencies, we expect that the opening of new facilities will contribute efficiencies and lead to lower operating expenses related to sales over the long-term.

Operating Income

Operating income decreased approximately 1.2%, or \$0.3 million, to \$24.8 million for the three months ended April 26, 2008 from \$25.1 million for the three months ended April 28, 2007. As a percentage of net sales, operating income was 2.8% for the three months ended April 26, 2008, compared to 3.4% for the three months ended April 28, 2007. The decrease in operating income as a percentage of net sales is attributable to the increase in operating expenses as a percentage of net sales for the three months ended April 26, 2008, compared to the three months ended April 28, 2007, which is primarily attributable to our acquisition of Millbrook.

Other Expense (Income)

Other expense (income) increased \$1.5 million to \$4.1 million for the three months ended April 26, 2008, from \$2.7 million for the three months ended April 28, 2007. Interest expense of \$4.2 million for the three months ended April 26, 2008 represented an increase of 38.6% from the three months ended April 28, 2007 due primarily to the increase in debt levels required to fund our acquisitions of Millbrook and branded product companies. Debt levels also increased for the three months ended April 26, 2008 compared to the three months ended April 28, 2007 as a result of Millbrook's working capital needs and increased inventory levels in preparation for the opening of the Sarasota, Florida and Ridgefield, Washington facilities in the first and second quarters of fiscal 2008, respectively, and capital expenditures related to the future opening of our Moreno Valley, California facility.

Provision for Income Taxes

Our effective income tax rate was 37.2% and 39.0% for the three months ended April 26, 2008 and April 28, 2007, respectively. The decrease in the effective income tax rate was primarily due to anticipated tax credits associated with the solar panel installation projects at our Rocklin, California and Dayville, Connecticut distribution facilities. This decrease was offset by an increase in our effective income tax rate due to the acquisition of Millbrook. Our effective income tax rate was also affected by share-based compensation for incentive stock options and the timing of disqualifying dispositions of certain share-based compensation awards. SFAS 123(R) provides that the tax effect of the book compensation cost previously recognized for an incentive stock option that an employee does not retain for the minimum holding period required by the Internal Revenue Code (a "disqualified disposition") is recognized as a tax benefit in the period the disqualifying disposition occurs. Our effective income tax rate will continue to be effected by the tax impact related to incentive stock options and the timing of tax benefits related to disqualifying dispositions.

Net Income

Net income decreased \$0.7 million to \$13.0 million, or \$0.30 per diluted share, for the three months ended April 26, 2008, compared to \$13.7 million, or \$0.32 per diluted share, for the three months ended April 28, 2007.

Nine Months Ended April 26, 2008 Compared To Nine Months Ended April 28, 2007

Net Sales

Our net sales increased approximately 19.9%, or \$406.5 million, to \$2,454.0 million for the nine months ended April 26, 2008, from \$2,047.0 million for the nine months ended April 28, 2007. This increase was primarily due to sales from our newly acquired Millbrook distribution business of \$149.6 million as well as organic growth in our wholesale division of \$251.1 million. Our organic growth is due to the continued growth of the natural products industry in general, increased market share through our focus on service and added value services, and the opening of new, and expansion of existing, distribution centers, which allows us to carry a broader selection of products.

On a combined basis, and excluding sales to Henry's and Sun Harvest store locations, which were divested by Whole Foods Market following its merger with Wild Oats Markets, Whole Foods Market and Wild Oats Markets accounted for approximately 33.5% and 34.5% of our net sales for the nine months ended April 26, 2008 and April 28, 2007, respectively. The Henry's and Sun Harvest locations divested by Whole Foods Market remain our customers.

The following table lists the percentage of sales by customer type for the nine months ended April 26, 2008 and April 28, 2007:

| Customer type | Percentage of Net Sales | |
|--|----------------------------|------|
| | 2008 | 2007 |
| Independently owned natural products retailers | 42% | 45% |
| Supernatural chains | 34% | 35% |
| Conventional supermarkets | 20% | 16% |
| Other | 4% | 4% |

Sales to Henry's and Sun Harvest store locations have been reclassified from our supernatural channel into our supermarket channel in both the current and prior year and will continue in this classification going forward. This reclassification resulted in an increase in sales in the supermarket channel of 1.5% and a decrease in sales in the supernatural channel of 1.5% for the nine months ended April 28, 2007.

Sales by channel have been adjusted to properly reflect changes in customer types resulting from a review of our customer lists. As a result of this adjustment, sales to the independents channel increased 0.4% for the nine months ended April 28, 2007 and sales to the supermarket channel decreased 0.4% for the three months ended April 28, 2007.

Compared to sales for the nine months ended April 28, 2007, sales in the supermarket channel were positively impacted for the nine months ended April 26, 2008 by our acquisition of Millbrook and negatively impacted for the nine months ended April 26, 2008 by the loss of a key customer in the first quarter of fiscal 2008.

Gross Profit

Our gross profit increased approximately 20.8%, or \$78.4 million, to \$456.0 million for the nine months ended April 26, 2008, from \$377.6 million for the nine months ended April 28, 2007. Our gross profit as a percentage of net sales was 18.6% and 18.4% for the nine months ended April 26, 2008 and April 28, 2007, respectively. Gross profit as a percentage of net sales during the nine months ended April 26, 2008 was positively impacted by sales from our Millbrook business and sales through our branded product lines. We have worked to take advantage of forward buying opportunities during the nine months ended April 26, 2008 in order to improve Millbrook's gross margin. We expect Millbrook's full service supermarket model to generate a higher gross margin over the long-term in our core distribution business; however, we also expect to incur higher operating expenses in providing those services. Gross profit as a percentage of net sales during the nine months ended April 28, 2007 was negatively impacted by missed forward buying opportunities and \$1.9 million of incremental inventory adjustments in our broadline distribution business. We intend to increase our emphasis on sales of branded products, which we believe will allow us to generate higher gross margins over the long-term, as branded product revenues generally yield relatively higher margins.

Operating Expenses

Our total operating expenses increased approximately 25.8%, or \$79.5 million, to \$387.4 million for the nine months ended April 26, 2008, from \$307.9 million for the nine months ended April 28, 2007. The increase in total operating expenses for the nine months ended April 26, 2008 was primarily due to increases in infrastructure, fuel and personnel costs within our wholesale division of approximately \$66.2 million, as a result of the Millbrook acquisition and to support our continued sales growth. We have been able to partially offset the effect of rising fuel prices by increasing delivery sizes, improving route design and by opening new facilities which reduce the total distance traveled to customers. We also incurred higher operating expenses during the nine months ended April 26, 2008 related to our

branded product lines as we have built our infrastructure to support anticipated growing business and \$3.3 million of costs associated with opening the Sarasota, Florida and Ridgefield, Washington facilities. Total operating expenses for the nine months ended April 28, 2007 included a loss of \$1.5 million related to the sale of one of our Auburn, California facilities, an impairment charge of \$0.8 million related to the reclassification of the remaining Auburn, California facility to held-for-sale, \$0.4 million in termination fees related to the early termination of unused leased space at a facility in Minnesota, and \$0.5 million of increased expense related to our fuel hedging program. The last of our fuel hedges expired in June 2007 and we have not entered into any fuel hedges in fiscal 2008. Total operating expenses for the first nine months of fiscal 2008 includes share-based compensation expense of \$3.5 million, compared to \$3.0 million in the first nine months of 2007, resulting from the adoption of SFAS 123(R). See Note 2 to our condensed consolidated financial statements.

As a percentage of net sales, total operating expenses increased to approximately 15.8% for the nine months ended April 26, 2008, from approximately 15.0% for the nine months ended April 28, 2007. The increase in operating expenses as a percentage of net sales was primarily attributable to our acquisition of Millbrook, \$3.3 million of initial costs associated with starting up the Sarasota, Florida and Ridgefield, Washington facilities as well as operating inefficiencies related to the recent opening of these facilities, and our investment in infrastructure for our branded product lines. We expect that the opening of new facilities will contribute efficiencies and lead to lower operating expenses related to sales over the long-term.

Operating Income

Operating income decreased approximately 1.6%, or \$1.1 million, to \$68.6 million for the nine months ended April 26, 2008, from \$69.7 million for the nine months ended April 28, 2007. As a percentage of net sales, operating income was 2.8% for the nine months ended April 26, 2008, compared to 3.4% for the nine months ended April 28, 2007. The decrease in operating income as a percentage of net sales is attributable to the increase in operating expenses as a percentage of net sales for the nine months ended April 26, 2008, compared to the nine months ended April 28, 2007, which is primarily attributable to our acquisition of Millbrook.

Other Expense (Income)

Other expense (income) increased \$2.8 million to \$11.8 million for the nine months ended April 26, 2008, from \$9.0 million for the nine months ended April 28, 2007. Interest expense for the nine months ended April 26, 2008 increased to \$12.1 million from \$9.3 million for the nine months ended April 28, 2007. The increase in interest expense was due primarily to the increase in debt levels required to fund our acquisitions of Millbrook and branded product companies. Debt levels also increased for the nine months ended April 26, 2008 compared to the nine months ended April 28, 2007 as a result of Millbrook's working capital needs and increased inventory levels in preparation for the opening of the Sarasota, Florida and Ridgefield, Washington facilities in the first and second quarters of fiscal 2008, respectively, and capital expenditures related to the future opening of our Moreno Valley, California facility.

Provision for Income Taxes

Our effective income tax rate was 37.2% and 39.0% for the nine months ended April 26, 2008 and April 28, 2007, respectively. The decrease in the effective income tax rate was primarily due to anticipated tax credits associated with the solar panel installation projects at our Rocklin, California and Dayville, Connecticut distribution facilities. This decrease was offset by an increase in our effective income tax rate due to the acquisition of Millbrook. Our effective income tax rate was also affected by share-based compensation for incentive stock options and the timing of disqualifying dispositions of certain share-based compensation awards. Our effective income tax rate will continue to be effected by the tax impact related to incentive stock options and the timing of tax benefits related to disqualifying dispositions.

Net Income

Net income decreased \$1.4 million to \$35.7 million, or \$0.83 per diluted share, for the nine months ended April 26, 2008, compared to \$37.0 million, or \$0.87 per diluted share, for the nine months ended April 28, 2007.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

We finance our operations and growth primarily with cash flows from operations, borrowings under our credit facility, operating leases, trade payables and bank indebtedness. In addition, from time to time, we may issue equity and debt securities.

On November 2, 2007, we amended our \$250 million secured revolving credit facility with a bank group led by Bank of America Business Capital as the administrative agent. The amendment temporarily increased the maximum borrowing base under the credit facility from \$250 million to \$270 million.

On November 27, 2007, we amended our \$270 million secured revolving credit facility with a bank group led by Bank of America Business Capital as the administrative agent. The amendment increased the maximum borrowing base under the credit facility from \$270 million to \$400 million and provides the Company with a one-time option, subject to approval by the lenders under the credit facility, to increase the borrowing base by up to an additional \$50 million. Interest accrues on borrowings under the credit facility, at our option, at either the base rate (the applicable prime lending rate of Bank of America Business Capital, as announced from time to time) or at the one-month London Interbank Offered Rate (“LIBOR”) plus 0.75%. The \$400 million credit facility matures on November 27, 2012. The amended and restated credit facility supports our working capital requirements in the ordinary course of business and provides capital to grow our business organically or through acquisitions. As of April 26, 2008, our borrowing base, based on accounts receivable and inventory levels, was \$393.5 million, with remaining availability of \$72.3 million.

In April 2003, we executed a term loan agreement in the principal amount of \$30 million, secured by certain real property that was released from the lien under our amended and restated credit facility in accordance with an amendment to the loan and security agreement related to that facility. The term loan is repayable over seven years based on a fifteen-year amortization schedule. Interest on the term loan initially accrued at one-month LIBOR plus 1.50%. In December 2003, we amended this term loan agreement to increase the principal amount from \$30 million to \$40 million under the existing terms and conditions. On July 29, 2005, we entered into an amended term loan agreement which further increased the principal amount of this term loan from \$40 million to up to \$75 million and decreased the rate at which interest accrues to one-month LIBOR plus 1.00%. In connection with the amendments to our amended and restated revolving credit facility described above, effective November 2, 2007 and November 27, 2007, we amended the term loan agreement to conform certain terms and conditions to the corresponding terms and conditions in the credit agreement that establishes our amended and restated revolving credit facility (the “Amended Credit Agreement”). As of April 26, 2008, approximately \$62.8 million was outstanding under the term loan agreement.

On June 4, 2008, we further amended the Amended Credit Agreement and our term loan agreement, effective as of May 28, 2008, in order to (i) waive events of default as a result of our noncompliance at April 26, 2008 with the fixed charge coverage ratio covenants under the Amended Credit Agreement and our term loan agreement (the “Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio Covenants”), (ii) increase the interest rate applicable to borrowings under each of our amended and restated revolving credit facility and our term loan by 0.25% during the period from June 1, 2008 through the date on which we demonstrate compliance with the applicable Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio Covenant, and (iii) exclude non-cash share based compensation expense from the calculation of EBITDA (as defined in the applicable agreement) in connection with the calculation of the fixed charge coverage ratio under the Amended Credit Agreement and the term loan agreement. The Amended Credit Agreement and our term loan agreement, as amended, require us to maintain a minimum fixed charge coverage ratio of 1.5 to 1.0 and 1.45 to 1.0, respectively, each calculated at the end of each of our fiscal quarters on a rolling four quarter basis. The principal reason for our noncompliance with the Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio Covenants was the high level of capital expenditures we have made in the trailing twelve month period ended April 26, 2008. We expect to be in compliance with the Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio Covenants as of the close of our fourth quarter of fiscal 2008.

We believe that our capital expenditure requirements for fiscal 2008 will be between \$50 and \$55 million. We expect to finance these requirements with cash generated from operations and borrowings under our existing credit facilities. These projects will provide both expanded facilities and enhanced technology that we believe will provide us with the capacity to continue to support the growth and expansion of our customer base. We believe that our future capital expenditure requirements will be similar to our anticipated fiscal 2008 requirements, as a percentage of net sales, as we continue to invest in our growth by upgrading our infrastructure and expanding our facilities. Future investments in acquisitions that we may pursue will be financed through our existing credit facilities, equity or long-term debt negotiated at the time of the potential acquisition.

Net cash used in operations was \$35.5 million for the nine months ended April 26, 2008, and was the result of net income of \$35.7 million, the change in cash collected from customers net of cash paid to vendors and a \$77.0 million investment in inventory. The increase in inventory levels primarily related to increased sales, restoring Millbrook's inventory levels by taking advantage of forward buying opportunities to improve Millbrook's gross profit and building inventory in anticipation of the opening of our Sarasota, Florida and Ridgefield, Washington facilities in September 2007 and December 2007, respectively. Net cash provided by operations was \$12.5 million for the nine months ended April 28, 2007, as the result of net income of \$37.0 million, the change in cash collected from customers net of cash paid to vendors and a \$43.4 million investment in inventory. Days in inventory was 51 days at April 26, 2008 and 45 days at April 28, 2007. This increase was due primarily to inventory purchased in anticipation of the opening of our Sarasota, Florida and Ridgefield, Washington distribution facilities while we worked to reduce inventory levels at the Atlanta, Georgia and Auburn, Washington facilities. Days sales outstanding improved to 20 days at April 26, 2008, compared to 21 days at April 28, 2007. Working capital decreased by \$121.5 million, or 56%, to \$95.0 million at April 26, 2008, compared to working capital of \$216.5 million at July 28, 2007.

Net cash used in investing activities increased \$117.0 million to \$139.8 million for the nine months ended April 26, 2008, compared to \$22.7 million for the same period in 2007. This increase was primarily due to purchases of acquired businesses, net of cash.

Net cash provided by financing activities was \$177.7 million for the nine months ended April 26, 2008, primarily due to new debt incurred related to our acquisition of Millbrook, the increase in our bank overdraft and proceeds from borrowings under notes payable, partially offset by repayments on long-term debt. Net cash provided by financing activities was \$10.7 million for the nine months ended April 28, 2007, primarily due to \$10.0 million in proceeds received from the increase in borrowings under our term loan agreement, the increase in our bank overdraft and proceeds from, and the tax benefit due to, the exercise of stock options, partially offset by repayments of long-term debt.

On December 1, 2004, our Board of Directors authorized the repurchase of up to \$50 million of common stock from time to time in the open market or in privately negotiated transactions. As part of the stock repurchase program, we have purchased 228,800 shares of our common stock for our treasury at an aggregate cost of approximately \$6.1 million. All shares were purchased at prevailing market prices. We may continue or, from time to time, suspend repurchases of shares under our stock repurchase program, depending on prevailing market conditions, alternate uses of capital and other factors. Whether and when to initiate and/or complete any purchase of common stock and the amount of common stock purchased will be determined in our complete discretion. We did not make any such common stock repurchases in the nine months ended April 26, 2008 or April 28, 2007.

In August 2005, we entered into an interest rate swap agreement effective July 29, 2005. This agreement provides for us to pay interest for a seven-year period at a fixed rate of 4.70% on a notional principal amount of \$50 million while receiving interest for the same period at one-month LIBOR on the same notional principal amount. The swap has been entered into as a hedge against LIBOR movements on current variable rate indebtedness totaling \$50 million at one-month LIBOR plus 1.00%, thereby fixing our effective rate on the notional amount at 5.70%. One-month LIBOR was 2.70% as of April 26, 2008. The swap agreement qualifies as an "effective" hedge under SFAS 133.

We may from time to time enter into commodity swap agreements to reduce price risk associated with our anticipated purchases of diesel fuel. These commodity swap agreements hedge a portion of our expected fuel usage for the periods set forth in the agreements. We monitor the commodity (NYMEX #2 Heating oil) used in our swap agreements to determine that the correlation between the commodity and diesel fuel is deemed to be "highly effective." At April 26, 2008, we had no outstanding commodity swap agreements. At April 28, 2007, we had one outstanding commodity swap agreement which matured on June 30, 2007.

There have been no material changes to our commitments and contingencies from those disclosed in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended July 28, 2007 except for operating leases signed with respect to warehouse space in Moreno Valley, California and York, Pennsylvania. Commitments related to the Moreno Valley, California lease agreement amount to \$0.2 million in fiscal year 2008, \$7.0 million in fiscal years 2009 through 2011, \$5.1 million in fiscal years 2012 and 2013, and \$14.0 million, thereafter. Commitments related to the York, Pennsylvania lease agreement amount to \$0.4 million in fiscal year 2008, \$7.9 million in fiscal years 2009 through 2011, \$5.6 million in fiscal years 2012 and 2013, and \$21.3 million, thereafter.

SEASONALITY

In the fiscal years ended July 28, 2007 and July 29, 2006, we experienced a slight sequential decline in sales from the third fiscal quarter to the fourth fiscal quarter. This may indicate that our business is developing some seasonality during late spring and early summer months. Additionally, our sales and operating results may vary significantly from quarter to quarter due to factors such as changes in our operating expenses, demand for natural products, supply

shortages and general economic conditions.

RECENTLY ISSUED FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

In July 2006, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (“FASB”) issued FASB Interpretation No. 48 (“FIN 48”), Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes – an interpretation of FASB Statement No. 109. FIN 48 prescribes detailed guidance for the financial statement recognition, measurement and disclosure of uncertain tax positions recognized in an enterprise’s financial statements in accordance with FASB Statement No. 109, Accounting for Income Taxes. Tax positions must meet a more-likely-than-not recognition threshold at the effective date to be recognized upon the adoption of FIN 48 and in subsequent periods. FIN 48 is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2006 and the provisions of FIN 48 will be applied to all tax positions upon initial adoption of the Interpretation. The cumulative effect of applying the provisions of this Interpretation will be reported as an adjustment to the opening balance of retained earnings for that fiscal year. We adopted FIN 48 on July 29, 2007. The cumulative effect of our adoption of FIN 48 did not result in a material adjustment to our tax liability for unrecognized income tax benefits. Our policy to include interest and penalties related to unrecognized tax benefits as a component of income tax expense did not change as a result of implementing the FIN 48.

In September 2006, the FASB issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standard No. (“SFAS”) 157, Fair Value Measurements (“SFAS 157”). SFAS 157 defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value and requires enhanced disclosures about fair value measurements under other accounting pronouncements, but does not change the existing guidance as to whether or not an instrument is carried at fair value. The statement is effective for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007. We will adopt SFAS 157 in fiscal 2009 and currently are evaluating whether the adoption of SFAS 157 will have a material effect on our consolidated financial statements.

In February 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 159, The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities (“SFAS 159”). SFAS 159 permits entities to choose to measure many financial instruments and certain other items at fair value and establishes presentation and disclosure requirements designed to facilitate comparisons between entities that choose different measurement attributes for similar types of assets and liabilities. The statement is effective for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007. We will adopt SFAS 159 in fiscal 2009 and currently are evaluating whether the adoption of SFAS 159 will have a material effect on our consolidated financial statements.

In December 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 160, Non-controlling Interests in Consolidated Financial Statements, an Amendment of ARB No. 51 (“SFAS 160”). This statement establishes accounting and reporting standards for the non-controlling interest in a subsidiary and for the deconsolidation of a subsidiary. This statement is effective for fiscal years beginning on or after December 15, 2008. We do not expect the adoption of SFAS 160 to have a material effect on our consolidated financial statements.

In March 2008, the FASB issued SFAS No. 161, Disclosures about Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities-an Amendment of SFAS No. 133 (“SFAS 161”). SFAS 161 enhances required disclosures regarding derivatives and hedging activities, including enhanced disclosures regarding how: (a) an entity uses derivative instruments; (b) derivative instruments and related hedged items are accounted for under SFAS No. 133, Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities; and (c) derivative instruments and related hedged items affect an entity's financial position, financial performance, and cash flows. SFAS No. 161 is effective for fiscal years and interim periods beginning after November 15, 2008 and early adoption is permitted. We do not expect the adoption of SFAS 161 to have a material effect on the disclosures that accompany our consolidated financial statements.

Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

Our exposure to market risk results primarily from fluctuations in interest rates on our borrowings and price increases in diesel fuel. As more fully described in Note 5 to the condensed consolidated financial statements, we use interest rate swap agreements to modify variable rate obligations to fixed rate obligations for a portion of our debt, and from

time to time use commodity swap agreements to hedge a portion of our expected diesel fuel usage. There have been no material changes to our exposure to market risks from those disclosed in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended July 28, 2007.

Item 4. Controls and Procedures

- (a) Evaluation of disclosure controls and procedures. We carried out an evaluation, under the supervision and with the participation of our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, of the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended) as of the end of the period covered by this quarterly report on Form 10-Q (the "Evaluation Date"). Based on this evaluation, our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that, as of the Evaluation Date, our disclosure controls and procedures are effective.
- (b) Changes in internal controls. There has been no change in our internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the third fiscal quarter of 2008 that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

PART II. OTHER INFORMATION

Item 1. Legal Proceedings

Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions Act Litigation

The Company and its subsidiary Natural Retail Group are defendants in a purported class action filed in January 2008 in the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida. The lawsuit alleges that the Company and Natural Retail Group violated the Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions Act by printing expiration dates on customer sales receipts for the Company's retail stores. On May 21, 2008, the Court stayed the case for 90 days pending resolution of legislation that will limit liability in cases involving the printing of expiration dates on sales receipts. The President signed this legislation into law on June 3, 2008. The case remains subject to the stay pending further action by the parties.

Item 1A. Risk Factors

Our business, financial condition and results of operations are subject to various risks and uncertainties, including those described below and elsewhere in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q. This section discusses factors that, individually or in the aggregate, we think could cause our actual results to differ materially from expected and historical results. Our business, financial condition or results of operations could be materially adversely affected by any of these risks.

We note these factors for investors as permitted by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. You should understand that it is not possible to predict or identify all such factors. Consequently, you should not consider the following to be a complete discussion of all potential risks or uncertainties applicable to our business. See "Part I. Item 2, Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations."

We depend heavily on our principal customer

Our ability to maintain a close, mutually beneficial relationship with our largest customer, Whole Foods Market, is an important element to our continued growth. In October 2006, we announced a seven-year distribution agreement with Whole Foods Market, which commenced on September 26, 2006, under which we will continue to serve as the primary U.S. distributor to Whole Foods Market in the regions where we previously served. In November 2006, we entered into an amendment to that distribution agreement, under which we were named the primary wholesale natural grocery distributor to Whole Foods Market in the Southern Pacific region of the United States, which includes Southern California, Arizona and Southern Nevada, and is a region we did not previously serve. We began expanding

our relationship with Whole Foods Market for this region in January 2007. In August 2007, Whole Foods Market and Wild Oats Markets completed their previously-announced merger, as a result of which, Wild Oats Markets became a wholly-owned subsidiary of Whole Foods Market. All stores previously owned by Wild Oats Markets and now owned by Whole Foods Market are subject to the terms of the distribution agreement with Whole Foods Market. Whole Foods Market sold all thirty-five of Wild Oats Markets' Henry's and Sun Harvest store locations to a subsidiary of Smart & Final Inc. on September 30, 2007. On a combined basis, and excluding sales to Henry's and Sun Harvest store locations, Whole Foods Market and Wild Oats Markets accounted for approximately 33.5% and 34.5% of our net sales for the nine months ended April 26, 2008 and April 28, 2007, respectively. As a result of this concentration of our customer base, the loss or cancellation of business from Whole Foods Market, including from increased distribution to their own facilities or closures of stores previously owned by Wild Oats Markets, could materially and adversely affect our business, financial condition or results of operations.

We sell products under purchase orders, and we generally have no agreements with or commitments from our customers for the purchase of products. We cannot assure you that our customers will maintain or increase their sales volumes or orders for the products supplied by us or that we will be able to maintain or add to our existing customer base.

Our profit margins may decrease due to consolidation in the grocery industry

The grocery distribution industry generally is characterized by relatively high volume with relatively low profit margins. The continuing consolidation of retailers in the natural products industry and the growth of supernatural chains may reduce our profit margins in the future as more customers qualify for greater volume discounts, and we experience pricing pressures from both ends of the supply chain.

Our acquisition strategy poses risks to our business

We continually evaluate opportunities to acquire other companies. We believe that there are risks related to acquiring companies, including overpaying for acquisitions, losing key employees of acquired companies and failing to achieve potential synergies. Additionally, our business could be adversely affected if we are unable to integrate the companies acquired in our acquisitions and mergers.

A significant portion of our historical growth has been achieved through acquisitions of or mergers with other distributors of natural products. Successful integration of merger partners is critical to our future operating and financial performance. Integration requires, among other things:

- maintaining the customer base;
- optimizing delivery routes;
- coordinating administrative, distribution and finance functions; and
- integrating management information systems and personnel.

The integration process has and could divert the attention of management and any difficulties or problems encountered in the transition process could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations. In addition, the process of combining companies has caused and could cause the interruption of, or a loss of momentum in, the activities of the respective businesses, which could have an adverse effect on their combined operations. For example, our acquisition of Millbrook has diverted the attention of management away from our core business, not yet produced the purchasing efficiencies and other synergies we expect to result from the acquisition and negatively affected our operating expenses. Although we expect to achieve efficiencies from this acquisition in future periods, we cannot assure you that we will realize any of the anticipated benefits of this or other mergers.

We may have difficulty managing our growth

The growth in the size of our business and operations has placed and is expected to continue to place a significant strain on our management. Our future growth is limited in part by the size and location of our distribution centers. We cannot assure you that we will be able to successfully expand our existing distribution facilities or open new distribution facilities in new or existing markets to facilitate growth. In addition, our growth strategy to expand our market presence includes possible additional acquisitions. To the extent our future growth includes acquisitions, we cannot assure you that we will successfully identify suitable acquisition candidates, consummate and integrate

such potential acquisitions or expand into new markets. Our ability to compete effectively and to manage future growth, if any, will depend on our ability to continue to implement and improve operational, financial and management information systems on a timely basis and to expand, train, motivate and manage our work force. We cannot assure you that our personnel, systems, procedures and controls will be adequate to support our operations. Our inability to manage our growth effectively could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations. Our focus on growth may temporarily redirect resources previously focused on reducing product cost, resulting in lower gross profits in relation to sales.

We have significant competition from a variety of sources

We operate in competitive markets, and our future success will be largely dependent on our ability to provide quality products and services at competitive prices. Our competition comes from a variety of sources, including other distributors of natural products as well as specialty grocery and mass market grocery distributors. We cannot assure you that mass market grocery distributors will not increase their emphasis on natural products and more directly compete with us or that new competitors will not enter the market. These distributors may have been in business longer than us, may have substantially greater financial and other resources than us, and may be better established in their markets. We cannot assure you that our current or potential competitors will not provide products or services comparable or superior to those provided by us or adapt more quickly than we do to evolving industry trends or changing market requirements. It is also possible that alliances among competitors may develop and rapidly acquire significant market share or that certain of our customers will increase distribution to their own retail facilities. Increased competition may result in price reductions, reduced gross margins and loss of market share, any of which could materially adversely affect our business, financial condition or results of operations. We cannot assure you that we will be able to compete effectively against current and future competitors.

Our operations are sensitive to economic downturns

The grocery industry is also sensitive to national and regional economic conditions and the demand for our products may be adversely affected from time to time by economic downturns. In addition, our operating results are particularly sensitive to, and may be materially adversely affected by:

- difficulties with the collectibility of accounts receivable;
- difficulties with inventory control;
- competitive pricing pressures; and
- unexpected increases in fuel or other transportation-related costs.

We cannot assure you that one or more of such factors will not materially adversely affect our business, financial condition or results of operations.

Increased fuel costs may have a negative impact on our results of operations

Increased fuel costs may have a negative impact on our results of operations. The high cost of diesel fuel can increase the price we pay for products as well as the costs we incur to deliver products to our customers. These factors, in turn, may negatively impact our net sales, margins, operating expenses and operating results. To manage this risk, we have in the past periodically entered, and may in the future periodically enter, into heating oil derivative contracts to hedge a portion of our projected diesel fuel requirements. Heating crude oil prices have a highly correlated relationship to fuel prices, making these derivatives effective in offsetting changes in the cost of diesel fuel. We are not party to any commodity swap agreements at April 26, 2008 and, as a result, our exposure to volatility in the price of diesel fuel has increased relative to our exposure to volatility in prior periods in which we had outstanding heating oil derivative contracts. We do not enter into fuel hedge contracts for speculative purposes. We also have maintained a fuel surcharge program since fiscal 2005 which allows us to pass some of our higher fuel costs through to our customers. We cannot guarantee that we will continue to be able to pass a comparable proportion or any of our higher fuel costs to our customers in the future.

The cost of the capital available to us and any limitations on our ability to access additional capital may have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations

We have an amended \$400 million secured revolving credit facility, which matures on November 27, 2012, and under which borrowings accrue interest, at our option, at either (i) the base rate (the applicable prime lending rate of Bank of America Business Capital, as announced from time to time) plus, during the period from June 1, 2008 through the date on which we demonstrate compliance with the Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio Covenant thereunder (the "Credit Facility Noncompliance Period"), 0.25%, or (ii) one-month LIBOR plus 1.0% during the Credit Facility Noncompliance Period and one-month LIBOR plus 0.75% thereafter. As of April 26, 2008, our borrowing base, based on accounts receivable and inventory levels, was \$393.5 million, with remaining availability of \$72.3 million. We have a term loan agreement in the principal amount of \$75 million secured by certain real property. The term loan is repayable over seven years based on a fifteen-year amortization schedule. Interest on the term loan accrues at one-month LIBOR plus 1.25% during the period from June 1, 2008 through the date on which we demonstrate compliance with the Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio Covenant thereunder and one-month LIBOR plus 1.0% thereafter. As of April 26, 2008, \$62.8 million was outstanding under the term loan agreement.

In order to maintain our profit margins, we rely on strategic investment buying initiatives, such as discounted bulk purchases, which require spending significant amounts of working capital. In the event that our cost of capital increases, such as during the period in which we are not in compliance with the Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio Covenants, or our ability to borrow funds or raise equity capital is limited, we could suffer reduced profit margins and be unable to grow our business organically or through acquisitions, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations.

Our operating results are subject to significant fluctuations

Our operating results may vary significantly from period to period due to:

- demand for natural products;
- changes in our operating expenses, including in fuel and insurance;
- management's ability to execute our business and growth strategies;
- changes in customer preferences, including levels of enthusiasm for health, fitness and environmental issues;
- fluctuation of natural product prices due to competitive pressures;
- personnel changes;
- general economic conditions;
- supply shortages, including due to a lack of an adequate supply of high-quality agricultural products due to poor growing conditions, natural disasters or otherwise;
- volatility in prices of high-quality agricultural products resulting from poor growing conditions, natural disasters or otherwise; and
- future acquisitions, particularly in periods immediately following the consummation of such acquisition transactions while the operations of the acquired businesses are being integrated into our operations.

Due to the foregoing factors, we believe that period-to-period comparisons of our operating results may not necessarily be meaningful and that such comparisons cannot be relied upon as indicators of future performance.

We are subject to significant governmental regulation

Our business is highly regulated at the federal, state and local levels and our products and distribution operations require various licenses, permits and approvals. In particular:

- our products are subject to inspection by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration;
- our warehouse and distribution facilities are subject to inspection by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and state health authorities; and
- the U.S. Department of Transportation and the U.S. Federal Highway Administration regulate our trucking operations.

The loss or revocation of any existing licenses, permits or approvals or the failure to obtain any additional licenses, permits or approvals in new jurisdictions where we intend to do business could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations.

We are dependent on a number of key executives

Management of our business is substantially dependent upon the services of certain key management employees. Loss of the services of any officers or any other key management employee could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations.

Union-organizing activities could cause labor relations difficulties

As of April 26, 2008, we had approximately 6,200 full and part-time employees. An aggregate of approximately 5% of our total employees, or approximately 335 of the employees at our Auburn, Washington, East Brunswick, New Jersey, Edison, New Jersey, Iowa City, Iowa and Leicester, Massachusetts facilities, are covered by collective bargaining agreements. The Edison, New Jersey, Auburn, Washington, East Brunswick, New Jersey, Leicester, Massachusetts and Iowa City, Iowa agreements expire in June 2008, February 2009, June 2009, March 2008 and July 2009, respectively. We have in the past been the focus of union-organizing efforts. As we increase our employee base and broaden our distribution operations to new geographic markets, our increased visibility could result in increased or expanded union-organizing efforts. Although we have not experienced a work stoppage to date, if additional employees were to unionize or we are not successful in reaching agreement with these employees, we could be subject to work stoppages and increases in labor costs, either of which could materially adversely affect our business, financial condition or results of operations.

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

None.

Item 3. Defaults Upon Senior Securities

As of April 26, 2008, we were not in compliance with the Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio Covenants, and we were unable to obtain a waiver of compliance with these covenants within 30 days thereafter. The principal reason for our noncompliance with these covenants was our high level of capital expenditures in the trailing twelve month period ended April 26, 2008. As of April 26, 2008, we had a gross borrowing base of \$393.5 million, with remaining availability of \$72.3 million under our amended and restated revolving credit facility and \$62.8 million of outstanding indebtedness under our term loan agreement. On June 4, 2008, we entered into amendments to our Amended Credit Agreement and our term loan agreement, effective as of May 28, 2008, that include waivers of these events of default. We expect to be in compliance with the Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio Covenants as of the close of our fourth quarter of fiscal 2008. However, there can be no assurance that we will regain compliance with these covenants as of the close of our fourth quarter of fiscal 2008.

Item 4. Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders

None.

Item 5. Other Information

None.

Item 6. Exhibits

Exhibits

Exhibit No. Description

| | |
|-------|--|
| 10.55 | Lease between FR York Property Holding, LP, and the Registrant, dated March 14, 2008. |
| 31.1 | Certification Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 – CEO |
| 31.2 | Certification Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 – CFO |
| 32.1 | Certification Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 – CEO |
| 32.2 | Certification Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 – CFO |

* * *

We would be pleased to furnish a copy of this Form 10-Q to any stockholder who requests it by writing to:

United Natural Foods, Inc.
Investor Relations
260 Lake Road
Dayville, CT 06241

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.

UNITED NATURAL FOODS, INC.

/s/ Mark E. Shamber
Mark E. Shamber
Chief Financial Officer
(Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)

Dated: June 5, 2008

