Form 10-Q
September 07, 2007
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# SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION 

Washington, D.C. 20549

## FORM 10-Q

## (Mark One)

x QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15 (d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
For the quarterly period ended August 4, 2007
OR

## .. TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15 (d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 <br> For the transition period from <br> $\qquad$ to <br> $\qquad$

Commission file number 1-11084

## KOHL S CORPORATION

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

| WISCONSIN |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| (State or other jurisdiction of |  |
| incorporation or organization) | 39-1630919 <br> (I.R.S. Employer |
| Ridgewood Drive, Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin <br> (Address of principal executive offices) <br> Registrant $s$ telephone number, including area code (262) 703-7000 |  |

## Edgar Filing: KOHLS CORPORATION - Form 10-Q

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 x No *

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

> Large accelerated filer x Accelerated filer * Non-accelerated filer *

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

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the issuer s classes of common stock, as of the latest practicable date: September 4, 2007 Common Stock, Par Value $\$ 0.01$ per Share, $317,788,104$ shares outstanding.

## KOHL S CORPORATION

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## PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

## Item 1. Financial Statements

## KOHL S CORPORATION

## CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

## (In Thousands)

|  | August 4, <br> 2007 <br> (Unaudited) | February 3, <br> 2007 <br> (Audited) | July 29, <br> 2006 <br> (Unaudited) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Assets |  |  |  |
| Current assets: |  |  |  |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$ 229,921 | \$ 189,170 | \$ 162,807 |
| Short-term investments | 35,556 | 431,230 | 519,276 |
| Merchandise inventories | 2,817,880 | 2,588,099 | 2,408,149 |
| Deferred income taxes | 46,733 | 40,190 | 10,591 |
| Other | 159,123 | 152,351 | 156,372 |
| Total current assets | 3,289,213 | 3,401,040 | 3,257,195 |
| Property and equipment, net | 6,190,119 | 5,352,974 | 5,104,521 |
| Favorable lease rights, net | 213,554 | 219,286 | 226,108 |
| Goodwill | 9,338 | 9,338 | 9,338 |
| Other assets | 60,978 | 58,539 | 51,504 |
| Total assets | \$ 9,763,202 | \$ 9,041,177 | \$ 8,648,666 |

## Liabilities and Shareholders Equity

| Current liabilities: |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Accounts payable | \$ 1,075,228 | \$ 934,376 | \$ 1,012,174 |
| Accrued liabilities | 870,703 | 732,178 | 731,008 |
| Income taxes payable | 133,223 | 233,263 | 104,229 |
| Short-term debt | 295,000 |  |  |
| Current portion of long-term debt and capital leases | 10,866 | 18,841 | 8,243 |
| Total current liabilities | 2,385,020 | 1,918,658 | 1,855,654 |
| Long-term debt and capital leases | 1,040,847 | 1,040,057 | 1,041,314 |
| Deferred income taxes | 246,484 | 243,530 | 213,994 |
| Other long-term liabilities | 258,388 | 235,537 | 219,199 |
| Shareholders equity: |  |  |  |
| Common stock | 3,506 | 3,485 | 3,466 |
| Paid-in capital | 1,874,024 | 1,748,792 | 1,645,393 |
| Treasury stock at cost | $(2,002,778)$ | $(1,628,416)$ | $(1,100,809)$ |
| Retained earnings | 5,957,711 | 5,479,534 | 4,770,455 |
| Total shareholders equity | 5,832,463 | 5,603,395 | 5,318,505 |

Total liabilities and shareholders equity $\quad \mathbf{\$ 9 , 7 6 3 , 2 0 2} \quad \$ 9,041,177 \quad \$ 8,648,666$

## See accompanying Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

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## KOHL S CORPORATION

## CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME

(Unaudited)<br>(In Thousands, Except per Share Data)

|  | Three Months |  | Six Months |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | (13 Week <br> August 4, | s) Ended July 29, | (26 Week <br> August 4, | s) Ended July 29, |
|  | 2007 | 2006 | 2007 | 2006 |
| Net sales | \$3,589,210 | \$ 3,301,507 | \$ 7,161,250 | \$ 6,497,843 |
| Cost of merchandise sold | 2,192,801 | 2,062,165 | 4,447,005 | 4,103,130 |
| Gross margin | 1,396,409 | 1,239,342 | 2,714,245 | 2,394,713 |
| Operating expenses: |  |  |  |  |
| Selling, general, and administrative | 837,790 | 759,756 | 1,696,264 | 1,528,644 |
| Depreciation and amortization | 106,146 | 96,105 | 210,834 | 189,377 |
| Preopening expenses | 8,748 | 8,062 | 17,337 | 19,059 |
| Operating income | 443,725 | 375,419 | 789,810 | 657,633 |
| Interest expense, net | 10,541 | 6,011 | 20,688 | 20,206 |
| Income before income taxes | 433,184 | 369,408 | 769,122 | 637,427 |
| Provision for income taxes | 163,960 | 137,050 | 290,945 | 237,825 |
| Net income | \$ 269,224 | \$ 232,358 | \$ 478,177 | \$ 399,602 |
| Net income per share: |  |  |  |  |
| Basic: |  |  |  |  |
| Basic | \$ 0.84 | \$ 0.70 | \$ 1.49 | \$ 1.18 |
| Average number of shares | 320,488 | 333,394 | 321,132 | 339,270 |
| Diluted: |  |  |  |  |
| Diluted | \$ 0.83 | \$ 0.69 | \$ 1.48 | \$ 1.17 |
| Average number of shares | 323,213 | 335,694 | 324,165 | 341,586 |

See accompanying Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

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## KOHL S CORPORATION

## CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN SHAREHOLDERS EQUITY

## (Unaudited)

(In Thousands)

|  | Common Stock |  | Paid-In | Treasury | Retained |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Shares | Amount | Capital | Stock | Earnings | Total |
| Balance at February 3, 2007 | 348,502 | \$ 3,485 | \$ 1,748,792 | \$ (1,628,416) | \$ 5,479,534 | \$ 5,603,395 |
| Exercise of stock options | 2,137 | 21 | 92,366 |  |  | 92,387 |
| Excess income tax benefit from exercise of stock options |  |  | 6,857 |  |  | 6,857 |
| Share-based compensation expense |  |  | 26,009 |  |  | 26,009 |
| Treasury stock purchases |  |  |  | $(374,362)$ |  | $(374,362)$ |
| Net income |  |  |  |  | 478,177 | 478,177 |
| Balance at August 4, 2007 | 350,639 | \$ 3,506 | \$ 1,874,024 | \$ (2,002,778) | \$ 5,957,711 | \$ 5,832,463 |

See accompanying Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

## Table of Contents

## KOHL S CORPORATION

## CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

## (Unaudited)

## (In Thousands)

|  | Six Months |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | (26 Weeks) Ended |  |  |  |
|  | August 4, |  | July 29, |  |
|  |  | 2007 |  | 2006 |
| Operating activities |  |  |  |  |
| Net income | \$ | 478,177 | \$ | 399,602 |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities: |  |  |  |  |
| Depreciation and amortization |  | 211,100 |  | 189,645 |
| Amortization of debt discount |  | 108 |  | 108 |
| Share-based compensation |  | 25,005 |  | 21,086 |
| Excess tax benefits from share-based compensation |  | $(6,857)$ |  | $(13,548)$ |
| Deferred income taxes |  | $(3,589)$ |  | 9,279 |
| Changes in operating assets and liabilities: |  |  |  |  |
| Accounts receivable, net |  |  |  | 1,652,065 |
| Merchandise inventories |  | $(229,781)$ |  | $(170,581)$ |
| Other current and long-term assets |  | $(35,393)$ |  | $(74,830)$ |
| Accounts payable |  | 140,852 |  | 182,203 |
| Accrued and other long-term liabilities |  | 160,930 |  | 122,775 |
| Income taxes |  | $(93,184)$ |  | $(49,131)$ |
| Net cash provided by operating activities |  | 647,368 |  | 2,268,673 |

## Investing activities

| Acquisition of property and equipment and favorable lease rights | $(\mathbf{( 1 , 0 3 5 , 0 0 7 )}$ | $(706,489)$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Purchases of short-term investments | $\mathbf{( 2 , 9 3 3 , 5 2 7 )}$ | $(6,595,769)$ |
| Sales of short-term investments | $\mathbf{3 , 3 2 9 , 2 0 1}$ | $6,236,570$ |
| Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment | $\mathbf{2 8 , 7 0 0}$ | $(\mathbf{( 1 , 9 0 5 )}$ |
| Other | $\mathbf{( 6 1 2 , 5 6 6 )}$ |  |
| Net cash used in investing activities | $\mathbf{( 6 3 8 )}$ | $(1,068,254)$ |


| Financing activities | $\mathbf{2 9 5 , 0 0 0}$ | $(104,596)$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Net borrowings under credit facilities | $\mathbf{( 1 3 , 9 6 1 )}$ | $(1,100,809)$ |
| Payments of other long-term debt | $\mathbf{( 3 7 4 , 3 6 2 )}$ | $\mathbf{6 , 8 5 7}$ |
| Treasury stock purchases | $\mathbf{9 2 , 3 8 7}$ | 13,548 |
| Excess tax benefits from share-based compensation | 27,406 |  |
| Proceeds from stock option exercises | $\mathbf{5 , 9 2 1}$ | $(1,164,451)$ |
| Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities | $\mathbf{4 0 , 7 5 1}$ | 35,968 |
| Net increase in cash and cash equivalents | $\mathbf{1 8 9 , 1 7 0}$ | 126,839 |


| Cash and cash equivalents at end of period | \$ | 229,921 | \$ | 162,807 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Supplemental information: |  |  |  |  |
| Interest paid, net of capitalized interest | \$ | 27,939 | \$ | 35,508 |
| Income taxes paid |  | 388,002 |  | 278,349 |

See accompanying Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

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## KOHL S CORPORATION

## NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Unaudited)

## 1. Basis of Presentation

The accompanying financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States for interim financial information. Accordingly, they do not include all of the information and footnotes required by generally accepted accounting principles for fiscal year end financial statements. In the opinion of management, all adjustments (consisting of normal recurring accruals) considered necessary for a fair presentation have been included. For further information, refer to the financial statements and footnotes thereto included in the Company s Form 10-K (Commission File No. 1-11084) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Due to the seasonality of the Company s business, results for any quarter are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be achieved for a full fiscal year. In addition, quarterly results of operations depend significantly upon the timing and amount of sales and costs associated with the opening of new stores.

The Company operates as a single business unit.
Certain reclassifications have been made to prior period financial information to conform to the current year presentation.

## 2. Net Sales

Revenue from the sale of the Company s merchandise at its stores is recognized at the time of sale, net of any returns. E-commerce sales are recorded upon the shipment of merchandise. Net sales do not include sales tax as the Company considers itself a pass-through conduit for collecting and remitting sales taxes. Revenue from gift card sales is recognized when the gift card is redeemed.

Gift card breakage revenue is based on historical redemption patterns and represents the balance of gift cards for which the Company believes the likelihood of redemption by a customer is remote.

## 3. Income Taxes

On February 4, 2007, the Company adopted FASB Interpretation No. 48, Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes an interpretation of FASB Statement No. 109 ( FIN 48 ), which clarifies the accounting and disclosure for uncertainty in tax positions, as defined. FIN 48 seeks to reduce the diversity in practice associated with certain aspects of the recognition and measurement related to accounting for income taxes.

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The Company has analyzed filing positions in all of the federal and state jurisdictions where it is required to file income tax returns, as well as all open tax years in these jurisdictions. The only periods subject to examination for the Company s federal return are the 2003 through 2006 tax years. The audits of the 2001 and 2002 tax years have been completed without material adjustment. The periods subject to examination for the Company s state returns are generally years 2002 through 2006. Certain states have proposed adjustments which the Company is currently appealing. If it does not prevail on its appeals, the Company does not anticipate that the adjustments would result in a material change in its financial position.

As a result of the implementation of FIN 48, the Company recognized no change in the liability for unrecognized tax benefits. At the time of adoption of FIN 48, the Company had $\$ 52.6$ million of unrecognized tax benefits recorded on its financial statements, net of any federal tax impact related to state taxes, all of which, if recognized, would impact the effective tax rate.

The Company recognizes interest and penalty expense related to unrecognized tax benefits in its provision for income tax expense. As of February 4,2007 , the Company had $\$ 8.2$ million of accrued interest and penalties included in the $\$ 52.6$ million of unrecognized tax benefits.

## 4. Share-Based Compensation

As of August 4, 2007, the Company has three long-term compensation plans pursuant to which share-based compensation may be granted. The Company s 1994 and 2003 long-term compensation plans provide for the granting of various forms of equity-based awards, including nonvested stock and options to purchase shares of the Company s common stock, to officers and key employees. The 1997 Stock Option Plan for Outside Directors provides for granting of equity-based awards to outside directors.

The majority of stock options granted to employees vest in four equal annual installments. Remaining stock option grants vest in five to ten equal annual installments. Outside directors stock options are typically granted upon a director selection or re-election to the Company s Board of Directors. The vesting periods for outside directors options are one to three years, depending on the length of the term to which the director is elected. Options that are surrendered or terminated without issuance of shares are available for future grants. All stock options have an exercise price equal to the fair market value of the common stock on the date of grant.

Share-based compensation transactions are accounted for in accordance with the provisions of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123(R), Share-based Payment, requiring the Company to recognize expense related to the fair value of its stock option awards. The fair value of all share-based awards is estimated on the date of grant, which is defined as the date the award is approved by the Board of Directors (or management with the appropriate authority).

Stock compensation cost is recognized for new, modified and unvested stock option awards, measured at fair value and recognized as compensation cost over the vesting period. The Black-Scholes option valuation model was used to estimate the fair value of each option award based on the following assumptions:

|  | $\mathbf{2 0 0 7}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 0 6}$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Dividend yield | $\mathbf{0 \%}$ | $0 \%$ |
| Volatility | $\mathbf{0 . 3 0 4}$ | 0.311 |
| Risk-free interest rate | $\mathbf{4 . 7 \%}$ | $4.7 \%$ |
| Expected life in years | $\mathbf{5 . 2}$ | 5.2 |
| Weighted average fair value at grant date | $\mathbf{\$ 2 7 . 5 0}$ | $\$ 19.00$ |

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Total compensation cost recognized related to options was $\$ 13.9$ million for the three months ended August 4,2007 and $\$ 10.0$ million for the three months ended July 29, 2006. Total compensation cost recognized for options was $\$ 22.2$ million for the six months ended August 4, 2007 and $\$ 18.9$ million for the six months ended July 29, 2006.

The Company has also awarded nonvested restricted shares of common stock to eligible key employees. All awards have restriction periods tied primarily to employment and/or service. The awards vest over three to four years. The awards are expensed on a straight-line basis over the vesting period. Total compensation cost recognized related to nonvested restricted stock was $\$ 1.6$ million for the three months ended August 4 , 2007 and $\$ 1.0$ million for the three months ended July 29,2006 . Total compensation cost recognized for nonvested restricted stock was $\$ 2.9$ million for the six months ended August 4, 2007 and $\$ 1.9$ million for the six months ended July 29, 2006.

Total unrecognized share-based compensation expense for all share-based payment plans was $\$ 166$ million at August 4, 2007, of which approximately $\$ 26$ million is expected to be recognized in the second half of 2007, $\$ 57$ million in 2008, $\$ 43$ million in 2009 and $\$ 40$ million thereafter. Future compensation expense may be impacted by future grants, changes in forfeiture estimates and/or actual forfeitures which differ from estimated forfeitures.

## 5. Short-term Investments

Short-term investments consist primarily of municipal auction rate securities and are stated at cost, which approximates market value. Short-term investments are classified as available-for-sale securities and are highly liquid. These securities generally have a put option feature that allows the Company to liquidate the investments at par.

## 6. Contingencies

The Company is involved in various legal matters arising in the normal course of business. In the opinion of management, the outcome of such proceedings and litigation will not have a material adverse impact on the Company s consolidated financial statements.

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## 7. Net Income Per Share

The calculations of the numerator and denominator for basic and diluted net income per share are summarized as follows:

|  | Three Months Ended <br> August 4, <br> July 29, | Six Months Ended <br> August 4, <br> July 29, |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Numerator for basic and diluted earnings per share net income | $\mathbf{2 0 0 7}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 0 6}$ <br> (In Thousands) | $\mathbf{2 0 0 6}$ |

(a) Excludes 4.9 million options for the three months ended August 4, 2007, 3.6 million options for the three months ended July 29, 2006, 4.8 million options for the six months ended August 4, 2007 and 4.1 million options for the six months ended July 29, 2006 as the impact of such options was antidilutive.

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

## Executive Summary

The Company continues to achieve strong growth in earnings and gross margin in 2007. For the quarter, net sales increased $8.7 \%$ and comparable store sales increased $1.3 \%$ over the prior year quarter. Year-to-date, net sales increased $10.2 \%$ and comparable store sales increased $2.5 \%$ over the comparable prior year period. The gross margin rate improved 137 basis points from $37.5 \%$ for the second quarter of 2006 to $38.9 \%$ this year. The year-to-date gross margin rate was $37.9 \%$, a 105 basis point improvement over $36.9 \%$ in 2006.

Operating income increased $18.2 \%$ to $\$ 443.7$ million for the quarter and $20.1 \%$ to $\$ 789.8$ million for the year-to-date period. As a percent of net sales, operating income increased approximately 100 basis points to $12.4 \%$ for the quarter and 91 basis points to $11.0 \%$ for the six months ended August 4, 2007.

Net income increased $15.9 \%$ over the prior year to $\$ 269.2$ million for the quarter and $19.7 \%$ to $\$ 478.2$ million for the six months ended August 4, 2007. Diluted earnings per share increased $20.3 \%$ over the comparable prior year quarter to $\$ 0.83$. Year-to-date diluted earnings per share increased $26.1 \%$ to $\$ 1.48$.

The Company continues to see positive results from its merchandise content initiatives as it expands its appeal to a broader range of customers. Men s had the strongest comparable store sales in both the quarter and year-to-date periods on strong performance in tailored clothing, basics and dress shirts. The Children s, Home and Footwear lines of business also outperformed the Company. Boys and infant/toddler led the Children s business while Home performance was driven by strength in bedding, luggage and decorative home. The Footwear business was driven by athletic and children s shoes. In Women s, the updated/contemporary business continues to perform well while classic sportswear remains difficult. The strongest category in Accessories was the Company s beauty and fragrance business.

Private and exclusive brands as a percentage of total sales continue to grow as a result of the Company s merchandise content and Only at Kohl s marketing initiatives. For the six months ended August 4, 2007, sales of private and exclusive brands reached $36.6 \%$ of net sales, an increase of 320 basis points over the prior year. The Company continues to see strong performance from exclusive brands launched this year, including the expansion of Chaps into plus size apparel and Home and Tony Hawk into Footwear. In addition, the very successful Elle exclusive brand will be rolled out to 250 additional stores later this Fall and to all stores by first quarter 2008.

During September, two important initiatives the Company s partnership with Vera Wang in merchandise categories across the store and The Food Network alliance in the Home business will be introduced.

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Significant benefits of the Company s inventory management initiatives have been recognized thus far in 2007. Gross margin as a percentage of net sales increased 137 basis points over the prior year quarter and 105 basis points over the prior year-to-date period. The Company continues to focus on receipt flow which results in better transitions and lower overall clearance levels. The markdown optimization program, improved inventory shortage and higher levels of private and exclusive brand sales also contributed to the higher gross margin percentages.

The Company continues to focus on profitable expansion in both existing and new markets. Seventeen stores were successfully opened during the first half of the year, including the Company s first three stores in the state of Idaho, three stores each in the Northeast and Southeast regions, two stores each in the Mid-Atlantic, South Central and Southwest regions, and one store each in the Midwest and Northwest regions.

The Company remains on track to meet its goal of opening 415 stores between 2007 and 2010. Most of the 95 stores which are expected to open in the second half of 2007 will open in the third quarter. In the Fall of 2007, the Company will open the majority of the Mervyn s locations it previously acquired in the Pacific Northwest, giving the Company a greater presence in the Portland and Seattle markets.

As of August 4, 2007, the Company operated 834 stores in 46 states compared with 749 stores in 43 states at July 29, 2006. Total square feet of selling space increased $9.8 \%$ from 57.9 million at July 29, 2006 to 63.5 million at August 4, 2007.

## Results of Operations

Net Sales

|  | August 4, | July 29, | Incre |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | (Dollars in Thousands) |  |  |  |
| Net sales: |  |  |  |  |
| Quarter | \$ 3,589,210 | \$ 3,301,507 | \$ 287,703 | 8.7\% |
| Year-to-date | 7,161,250 | 6,497,843 | 663,407 | 10.2 |

New store openings, including 17 stores in the first half of 2007 and 68 stores in the second half of 2006, contributed $\$ 246.4$ million to the increase in net sales for the quarter. Comparable store sales, which are sales from stores (including e-commerce sales and relocated or expanded stores) open throughout the full current and prior fiscal year periods, contributed $\$ 41.3$ million to the increase. The $1.3 \%$ comparable store sales increase was the result of a $2.5 \%$ increase in average transaction value which was partially offset by a $1.2 \%$ decrease in the number of transactions per store.

Year-to-date, new stores contributed $\$ 501.0$ million to the $\$ 663.4$ million increase in net sales over the prior year. The remaining $\$ 162.4$ million, which represents a $2.5 \%$ increase in comparable store sales, is the result of a $3.2 \%$ increase in average transaction value which was partially offset by a $0.7 \%$ decrease in the number of transactions per store.

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The Men s business and the Mid-Atlantic region led the Company for both the quarter and year-to-date. For the year-to-date period, all lines of business posted positive comparable store sales increases. E-commerce sales increased $70.3 \%$ to $\$ 48.9$ million for the three months ended August 4, 2007 and $67.9 \%$ to $\$ 101.3$ million year-to-date as the Company continues to expand the selections offered on-line.

## Gross Margin

|  | August 4, | July 29, | Increase |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $\mathbf{2 0 0 7}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 0 6}$ <br> (Dollars in Thousands) | $\$$ |

Newly-opened stores contributed $\$ 89.6$ million to the increase in gross margin for the quarter and $\$ 170.3$ million year-to-date. Comparable store gross margin increased $\$ 67.5$ million for the quarter and $\$ 149.2$ million year-to-date. Gross margin as a percent of net sales was $38.9 \%$ for the three months ended August 4, 2007 compared to $37.5 \%$ for the three months ended July 29, 2006. For the year-to-date period, gross margin as a percent of net sales was $37.9 \%$ in 2007 and $36.9 \%$ in 2006.

The improvement in gross margin as a percent of net sales was driven by the continued impact of the Company s merchandise and inventory management initiatives, improved markup, the adoption of markdown optimization, better inventory shortage results and increased penetration of private and exclusive brands. Private and exclusive brands increased to $37.3 \%$ of net sales for the three months ended August 4, 2007 compared to $34.3 \%$ of net sales for the three months ended July 29,2006 . Year-to-date, private and exclusive brands represented $36.6 \%$ of net sales for 2007, a 320 basis point improvement over $33.4 \%$ for 2006.

## Operating Expenses

|  | August 4, | July 29, | Increase |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | (Dollars in Thousands) |  |  |  |
| S,G\&A: |  |  |  |  |
| Quarter | \$ 837,790 | \$ 759,756 | \$ 78,034 | 10.3\% |
| Year-to-date | 1,696,264 | 1,528,644 | 167,620 | 11.0 |
| S,G\&A as a percent of net sales: |  |  |  |  |
| Quarter | 23.3\% | 23.0\% |  |  |
| Year-to-date | 23.7 | 23.5 |  |  |

Selling, general and administrative expenses ( S,G\&A ) include all direct store expenses such as payroll, occupancy and store supplies and all costs associated with the Company s distribution centers, advertising and corporate functions, but exclude depreciation and amortization and preopening expenses. The Company achieved leverage in credit and distribution centers

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for both the quarter and year-to-date periods. Stores, advertising and corporate did not leverage for either period primarily due to the timing of sales during the quarter and the Company s desire to maintain a positive customer in-store experience. The increase in year-to-date store operating expenses was also driven by the incremental expenses associated with increased remodel activity. The Company has remodeled 24 more stores in 2007 than it did in 2006.

|  | August 4, | July 29, | Incr |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | (Dollars in Thousands) |  |  |  |
| Depreciation and amortization: |  |  |  |  |
| Quarter | \$ 106,146 | \$ 96,105 | \$ 10,041 | 10.4\% |
| Year-to-date | 210,834 | 189,377 | 21,457 | 11.3 |

The increases in depreciation and amortization for both the quarter and year-to-date periods are primarily attributable to the addition of new stores and the mix of owned compared to leased stores. Depreciation on remodels and the Company s new point of sale system also contributed to the increases.

|  | August 4, | July 29, | Increase (D | ease) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | (Dollars in Thousands) |  |  | \% |
| Preopening expenses: |  |  |  |  |
| Quarter | \$ 8,748 | \$ 8,062 | \$ 686 | 8.5\% |
| Year-to-date | 17,337 | 19,059 | $(1,722)$ | (9.0) |

Preopening expenses are expensed as incurred and represent the costs associated with new store openings including advertising, hiring and training costs for new employees, processing and transporting initial merchandise and rent expenses. The average cost per store fluctuates based on the mix of stores opened in new markets compared to existing markets, with new markets being more expensive. The Company opened 17 new stores in both the six months ended August 4, 2007 and July 29, 2006. Preopening expenses increased over the prior year quarter as the Company is opening 95 stores in the Fall of 2007 compared to 68 in the Fall of 2006. Year-to-date, the average cost to open a store decreased in 2007 compared to 2006 due to shifting more advertising to the post-grand opening period.

Operating Income

|  | August 4, | July 29, | Incre |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | (Dollars in Thousands) |  |  |  |
| Operating income: |  |  |  |  |
| Quarter | \$ 443,725 | \$ 375,419 | \$ 68,306 | 18.2\% |
| Year-to-date | 789,810 | 657,633 | 132,177 | 20.1 |
| Operating income as a percent of net sales: |  |  |  |  |
| Quarter | 12.4\% | 11.4\% |  |  |
| Year-to-date | 11.0 | 10.1 |  |  |

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As a result of the above factors, operating income as a percent of net sales was $12.4 \%$ for the three months ended August 4,2007 compared to $11.4 \%$ for the three months ended July 29, 2006. For the six month periods, operating income as a percent of net sales was $11.0 \%$ for 2007 compared to $10.1 \%$ for 2006 .

## Interest Expense, Net

|  | August 4, | July 29, | Incr |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | (Dollars in Thousands) |  |  |  |
| Interest expense, net: |  |  |  |  |
| Quarter | \$ 10,541 | \$ 6,011 | \$ 4,530 | 75.4\% |
| Year-to-date | 20,688 | 20,206 | 482 | 2.4 |

The increase in net interest expense in both periods was primarily due to a decrease in interest income as a result of lower average investments. Last year s interest income included the investment of the $\$ 1.6$ billion received from the sale of the Company s credit card portfolio. As of August 4, 2007, the Company s investments totaled $\$ 35.6$ million as previous investments were used to fund stock repurchases.

## Provision for Income Taxes

|  | August 4, | July 29, | Increase |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\mathbf{2 0 0 7}$ | 2006 <br> (Dollars in Thousands) | \% |  |  |
| Provision for income taxes: |  | $\mathbf{8 1 6 3 , 9 6 0}$ | $\$ 137,050$ | $\$ 26,910$ | $19.6 \%$ |
| Quarter | $\mathbf{2 9 0 , 9 4 5}$ | 237,825 | 53,120 | 22.3 |  |

The Company s effective tax rate was $37.8 \%$ for the three months ended August 4,2007 compared to $37.1 \%$ for the three months ended July 29 , 2006. For the six month periods, the effective tax rate was $37.8 \%$ for 2007 and $37.3 \%$ for 2006 . The increases in the effective tax rates are primarily due to the mix of new stores in certain jurisdictions.

## Seasonality \& Inflation

The Company s business, like that of most retailers, is subject to seasonal influences, with the major portion of sales and income typically realized during the last half of each fiscal year, which includes the back-to-school and holiday seasons. Approximately $15 \%$ of sales typically occur during the back-to-school season and $30 \%$ during the holiday season. Because of the seasonality of the Company s business, results for any quarter are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be achieved for a full fiscal year. In addition, quarterly results of operations depend significantly upon the timing and amount of sales and costs associated with the opening of new stores.

The Company does not believe that inflation has had a material effect on its results during the periods presented. However, there can be no assurance that the Company s business will not be affected by such factors in the future.

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## Financial Condition and Liquidity

The Company s primary ongoing cash requirements are for capital expenditures in connection with the Company s expansion and remodeling programs and seasonal and new store inventory purchases. The Company s primary sources of funds for its business activities are cash flow from operations, short-term trade credit and its lines of credit.

|  | August 4, | Six Months Ended <br> July 29, |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Increase (Decrease) |  |  |  |  |  |

Operating Activities. The decrease in cash flow provided by operations was primarily due to the cash proceeds of $\$ 1.6$ billion received by the Company in conjunction with the sale of the proprietary credit card accounts on April 21, 2006. The primary use of cash flow for the six months ended August 4, 2007 was an increase in merchandise inventories of $\$ 229.8$ million. The primary sources of cash flow in 2007 were an increase in accounts payable and accrued liabilities of $\$ 301.8$ million and a $20 \%$ increase in net income. Short-term trade credit, in the form of extended payment terms for inventory purchases, represents a significant source of financing for merchandise inventories.

Key financial ratios that provide certain measures of the Company s liquidity are as follows:

|  | August 4, | February 3, | July 29, |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2007 | 2007 | 2006 |
| Working capital (In Thousands) | \$ 904,193 | \$ 1,482,382 | \$ 1,401,541 |
| Current ratio | 1.38:1 | 1.77:1 | 1.76:1 |
| Debt/capitalization | 18.8\% | 15.9\% | 16.5\% |

The reduction in working capital and the current ratio as of August 4, 2007 compared to July 29, 2006, was primarily due to short-term investments and short-term debt borrowings used to fund share repurchases made subsequent to July 29, 2006. The increase in the debt/capitalization ratio represents higher debt levels, partially offset by higher capitalization. The higher debt levels are primarily the result of draws on the senior unsecured revolving facility which were used primarily for share repurchases. The higher capitalization is the result of earnings and stock option exercises, partially offset by share repurchases.

Merchandise inventories increased $\$ 409.7$ million, or $17.0 \%$, from the July 29,2006 balance primarily due to the increase in the number of stores. On an average per store basis, merchandise inventories at August 4, 2007 increased $5.1 \%$ from July 29, 2006. Compared to February 3 , 2007, merchandise inventories at August 4, 2007 increased $\$ 229.8$ million, or $8.9 \%$, due to normal business seasonality, the opening of 17 new stores and increased shipments of import merchandise.

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Accounts payable at August 4, 2007, increased $\$ 63.1$ million from July 29, 2006 and $\$ 140.9$ million from February 3, 2007. Accounts payable as a percent of inventory was $38.2 \%$ at August 4, 2007, compared to $42.0 \%$ at July 29,2006 , reflecting higher imports in transit.

Investing Activities. The decrease in net cash used in investing activities was due to a $\$ 754.9$ million change in net short-term investment activities which was partially offset by a $\$ 328.5$ million increase in capital expenditures. Net short-term investment activity generated $\$ 395.7$ million in proceeds in 2007 which were primarily used to repurchase treasury stock. In 2006, net short-term investment activity resulted in a use of funds of $\$ 359.2$ million as proceeds from the private label credit card transaction on April 21, 2006 exceeded cash used to repurchase common stock.

Total capital expenditures, which include costs for new store openings, store remodels, distribution center openings and other base capital needs, are expected to be approximately $\$ 1.6$ billion for fiscal 2007. The actual amount of the Company s future annual capital expenditures will depend primarily on the number of new stores opened, the mix of owned, leased or acquired stores, the number of stores remodeled and the timing of distribution center openings.

Financing Activities. The Company expects to fund growth with available cash and short-term investments, proceeds from cash flows from operations, short-term trade credit, seasonal borrowings under its revolving credit facilities and other sources of financing. The Company believes it has sufficient lines of credit, cash and short-term investments and expects to generate adequate cash flows from operating activities to sustain current levels of operations. The Company drew $\$ 295.0$ million on its $\$ 900$ million senior unsecured revolving facility ( revolver ) during the current quarter. The proceeds were used primarily for treasury stock repurchases. Weighted-average borrowings under the revolver were $\$ 44.8$ million for the quarter and $\$ 22.4$ million year-to-date. In addition, the Company has two demand notes, neither of which was drawn at August 4, 2007, with availability totaling $\$ 50.0$ million.

The Company completed its $\$ 2.0$ billion share repurchase program in the second quarter of 2007, purchasing 5.3 million shares for $\$ 373$ million at an average price of approximately $\$ 70$ per share in the quarter ended August 4, 2007. Since announcing the plan in April 2006, the Company has purchased 32.8 million shares at an average price of approximately $\$ 61$ per share. The Company also acquires shares from employees in lieu of amounts required to satisfy minimum tax withholding requirements upon the vesting of the employee s restricted stock. Such shares are then designated as treasury shares.

## Contractual Obligations

There have been no significant changes in the contractual obligations disclosed in the Company s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended February 3, 2007.

The Company adopted the provisions of FIN 48 on February 4, 2007 and the related liability for unrecognized tax benefits was $\$ 52.6$ million. Although payment of such amounts in future periods could affect liquidity and cash flows, the Company is currently unable to reasonably estimate the period of cash settlement.

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The Company s various debt agreements contain certain covenants that limit, among other things, additional indebtedness, as well as require the Company to meet certain financial tests. As of August 4, 2007, the Company was in compliance with all financial covenants of the debt agreements and expects to remain in compliance for the upcoming year.

## Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

The Company has not provided any financial guarantees as of August 4, 2007.
The Company has not created, and is not party to, any special-purpose or off-balance sheet entities for the purpose of raising capital, incurring debt or operating the Company s business. The Company does not have any arrangements or relationships with entities that are not consolidated into the financial statements that are reasonably likely to materially affect the Company s liquidity or the availability of capital resources.

## Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires the Company to make estimates and assumptions that affect reported amounts. Management has discussed the development, selection and disclosure of its estimates and assumptions with the Audit Committee of the Board of Directors. There have been no significant changes in the critical accounting policies and estimates discussed in the Company s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended February 3, 2007.

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

There have been no significant changes in the market risks described in the Company s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended February 3, 2007.

## Item 4. Controls and Procedures

The Company maintains disclosure controls and procedures that are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed in the Company s reports filed under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act ), is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the specified time periods. As of the end of the period covered by this report, the Company carried out an evaluation, under the supervision and with the participation of the Company s management, including the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, of the effectiveness of the design and operation of these disclosure controls and procedures pursuant to Rule 13a-15 of the Exchange Act. Based on that evaluation, the Company s Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that the Company s disclosure controls and procedures are effective in ensuring that information required to be disclosed in the Company s reports is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the specified time periods and are also effective in ensuring that information required to be disclosed in reports filed or submitted under the Exchange Act are accumulated and communicated to management, including the Company s principal executive and principal financial officer, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosures.

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There were no changes in the Company s internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the last fiscal quarter that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company s internal control over financial reporting.

## PART II. OTHER INFORMATION

## Item 1A. Risk Factors

There have been no significant changes in the Company s risk factors from those described in its Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended February 3, 2007.

## Forward-looking Statements

This report contains statements that may constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of the safe harbor provisions for forward-looking statements contained in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Those statements relate to developments, results, conditions or other events the Company expects or anticipates will occur in the future. The Company intends words such as believes, anticipates, plans, expects and similar expressions to identify forward-looking statements. Without limiting the foregoing, these statements may relate to future outlook, revenues, earnings, store openings, planned capital expenditures, market conditions, new strategies and the competitive environment. Forward-looking statements are based on management sthen current views and assumptions and, as a result, are subject to certain risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those projected. Any such forward-looking statements are qualified by the important risk factors, described in Item 1A of the Company s Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the SEC on March 23, 2007, that could cause actual results to differ materially from those predicted by the forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements relate to the date initially made, and the Company undertakes no obligation to update them. An investment in the Company s common stock or other securities carries certain risks. Investors should carefully consider the risks as stated in the Company s Form 10-K and other risks which may be disclosed from time to time in the Company sfilings with the SEC before investing in the Company s securities.

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

During the quarter ended August 4, 2007, the Company did not sell any securities which were not registered under the Securities Act.
During the current quarter, the Company completed its $\$ 2.0$ billion share repurchase program which was announced in March 2006. The share repurchase program was executed in open market transactions.

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The following table contains information for both shares repurchased pursuant to the Company s repurchase program and shares acquired from employees in lieu of amounts required to satisfy minimum tax withholding requirements upon the vesting of the employees restricted stock during the three fiscal months ended August 4, 2007:

|  |  |  | Total Number |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | of Shares | Maximum |
|  |  |  | Purchased as | Approximate |
|  | Total Number |  | Part of | Dollar Value of |
|  | of Shares | Average | Publicly | Shares that May |
|  | Purchased | Price | Announced | Yet Be <br> Purchased |
|  | During | Paid Per | Plans or | Under the Plans |
| Period | Period | Share | Programs | or Programs |
| May 6 June 2, 2007 | 331,096 | \$ 73.25 | 330,300 | \$ 349,000,000 |
| June 3 July 7, 2007 | 3,138,860 | 70.75 | 3,138,461 | 127,000,000 |
| July 8 August 4, 2007 | 1,867,213 | 68.09 | 1,864,878 |  |
| Total | 5,337,169 | \$ 69.97 | 5,333,639 |  |

## Item 6. Exhibits

10.1 Kohl s Corporation 2005 Deferred Compensation Plan, as amended and restated effective August 14, 2007
31.1 Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
31.2 Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
32.1 Certification of Periodic Report by Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
32.2 Certification of Periodic Report by Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

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## SIGNATURES

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

Date: September 7, 2007

Date: September 7, 2007

Kohl s Corporation
(Registrant)
/s/ R. Lawrence Montgomery
R. Lawrence Montgomery

Chief Executive Officer and Director
/s/ Wesley S. McDonald
Wesley S. McDonald

Chief Financial Officer

