CASEYS GENERAL STORES INC
Form 10-Q
March 09, 2015

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549
FORM 10-Q

Quarterly Report Under Section 13 or 15(d)
of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934
For the Fiscal Quarter Ended January 31, 2015
Commission File Number 001-34700
CASEY'S GENERAL STORES, INC.
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

## IOWA

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

ONE CONVENIENCE BOULEVARD, ANKENY, IOWA
(Address of principal executive offices)
(515) 965-6100
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)
NONE
(Former name, former address and former fiscal year, if changed since last report)
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 has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). 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.
Large accelerated filer $x \quad$ Accelerated filer " Non-accelerated filer ${ }^{*}$ Indicated by 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.
Class
Outstanding at March 3, 2015
Common stock, no par value per share

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PART I—FINANCIAL INFORMATION
Item 1. Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements
CASEY'S GENERAL STORES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS
(Unaudited)
(DOLLARS IN THOUSANDS)

|  | January 31, <br> 2015 | April 30, <br> 2014 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| ASSETS |  |  |
| Current assets: | $\$ 43,637$ | 121,641 |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 22,217 | 25,841 |
| Receivables | 168,280 | 204,833 |
| Inventories | 2,906 | 1,478 |
| Prepaid expenses | 17,722 | 23,292 |
| Deferred income taxes | 1,624 | 12,473 |
| Income tax receivable | 256,386 | 389,558 |
| Total current assets | 17,163 | 15,947 |
| Other assets, net of amortization | 127,046 | 120,406 |
| Goodwill |  | $1,778,965$ |
| Property and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation of $\$ 1,160,558$ at January | $31,986,945$ | 1, |
| 2015 and $\$ 1,062,278$ at April 30,2014 | $\$ 2,387,540$ | $2,304,876$ |

See notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

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CASEY'S GENERAL STORES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS
(Unaudited)
(Continued)
(DOLLARS IN THOUSANDS)

|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { January 31, } \\ & 2015 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { April 30, } \\ & 2014 \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY |  |  |
| Current liabilities: |  |  |
| Notes payable to bank | \$18,500 | - |
| Current maturities of long-term debt | 7,893 | 553 |
| Accounts payable | 174,704 | 250,807 |
| Accrued expenses | 123,848 | 139,529 |
| Total current liabilities | 324,945 | 390,889 |
| Long-term debt, net of current maturities | 845,846 | 853,642 |
| Deferred income taxes | 340,084 | 318,023 |
| Deferred compensation | 17,147 | 16,558 |
| Other long-term liabilities | 20,409 | 22,500 |
| Total liabilities | 1,548,431 | 1,601,612 |
| Shareholders' equity: |  |  |
| Preferred stock, no par value | - | - |
| Common stock, no par value | 53,720 | 33,878 |
| Retained earnings | 785,389 | 669,386 |
| Total shareholders' equity | 839,109 | 703,264 |
|  | \$2,387,540 | 2,304,876 |

See notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

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CASEY'S GENERAL STORES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME (Unaudited)
(DOLLARS IN THOUSANDS, EXCEPT SHARE AND PER SHARE AMOUNTS)

|  | Three Months Ended <br> January 31, |  | Nine Months Ended <br> January 31, |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | 2015 | 2014 | 2015 | 2014 |
| Total revenue | $\$ 1,671,961$ | $1,790,055$ | $6,113,358$ | $5,920,689$ |
| Cost of goods sold (exclusive of depreciation and | $1,320,915$ | $1,513,365$ | $5,020,116$ | $4,982,293$ |
| amortization, shown separately below) | 351,046 | 276,690 | $1,093,242$ | 938,396 |
| Gross profit | 238,782 | 214,671 | 727,881 | 647,174 |
| Operating expenses | 40,431 | 32,687 | 113,955 | 95,604 |
| Depreciation and amortization | 10,191 | 10,123 | 31,057 | 29,595 |
| Interest, net | 61,642 | 19,209 | 220,349 | 166,023 |
| Income before income taxes | 22,323 | 6,556 | 81,064 | 60,145 |
| Federal and state income taxes | $\$ 39,319$ | 12,653 | 139,285 | 105,878 |
| Net income |  |  |  |  |
| Net income per common share | $\$ 1.01$ | 0.33 | 3.60 | 2.76 |
| Basic | $\$ 1.01$ | 0.33 | 3.57 | 2.73 |
| Diluted | $38,795,477$ | $38,482,970$ | $38,701,232$ | $38,443,816$ |
| Basic weighted average shares outstanding | 322,674 | 444,061 | 309,125 | 418,025 |
| Plus effect of stock compensation | $39,118,151$ | $38,927,031$ | $39,010,357$ | $38,861,841$ |
| Diluted weighted average shares outstanding |  |  |  |  |

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CASEY'S GENERAL STORES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
(Unaudited)
(DOLLARS IN THOUSANDS)

Cash flows from operating activities:
Net income
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:
Depreciation and amortization
Nine months ended January 31, 20152014

Other amortization
Stock based compensation
Loss on disposal of assets and impairment charges
Deferred income taxes
Excess tax benefits related to stock option exercises
Changes in assets and liabilities:
Receivables
Inventories
Prepaid expenses
Accounts payable
Accrued expenses
Income taxes
Other, net
Net cash provided by operating activities
\$139,285 105,878

Cash flows from investing activities:
Purchase of property and equipment
Payments for acquisition of businesses, net of cash acquired
Proceeds from sales of property and equipment
Net cash used in investing activities
113,955 95,604

Cash flows from financing activities:
Proceeds from long-term debt
Repayments of long-term debt
(456 ) (8,144

Net borrowings (repayments) of short-term debt
Proceeds from exercise of stock options
Payments of cash dividends
Excess tax benefits related to stock option exercises
Net cash provided by financing activities
18,500
10,535

Not
(22,398 ) (20,168
3,014 1,615
9,195
117,115

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CASEY'S GENERAL STORES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (Unaudited)
(Continued)
(DOLLARS IN THOUSANDS)

|  | Nine months ended January 31, |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | 2015 | 2014 |
| Net (decrease) increase in cash and cash equivalents | $(78,004$ | ) 60,889 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the period | 121,641 | 41,271 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at end of the period | $\$ 43,637$ | 102,160 |

Nine months ended January 31,
Cash paid during the period for:
Interest, net of amount capitalized
\$24,536 19,969
Income taxes
42,352 48,960
Noncash investing and financing activities:
Property and equipment acquired through capitalized lease obligations - 1,169
Purchased property and equipment in accounts payable
4,644
See notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

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CASEY'S GENERAL STORES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(Dollars in Thousands, Except Share and Per Share Amounts)

## 1.Presentation of Financial Statements

The accompanying condensed consolidated financial statements include the accounts and transactions of the Company and its wholly-owned subsidiaries. All material inter-company balances and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation.

## 2. Basis of Presentation

The accompanying condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared by the Company pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission. Certain information and footnote disclosures normally included in financial statements prepared in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles have been condensed or omitted pursuant to such rules and regulations. Although management believes that the disclosures are adequate to make the information presented not misleading, it is suggested that these interim condensed consolidated financial statements be read in conjunction with the Company's most recent audited financial statements and notes thereto. In the opinion of management, the accompanying condensed consolidated financial statements contain all adjustments (consisting of only normal recurring accruals) necessary to present fairly the financial position as of January 31, 2015 and April 30, 2014, and the results of operations for the three and nine months ended January 31, 2015 and 2014, and cash flows for the nine months ended January 31, 2015 and 2014.

## 3. Revenue Recognition

The Company recognizes retail sales of fuel, grocery and other merchandise, prepared food and fountain and other revenue at the time of the sale to the customer. Renewable Identification Numbers (RINs) are treated as a reduction in cost of goods sold in the period the Company commits to a price and agrees to sell the RIN. Vendor rebates in the form of rack display allowances are treated as a reduction in cost of goods sold and are recognized pro rata over the period covered by the applicable rebate agreement. Vendor rebates in the form of billbacks are treated as a reduction in cost of goods sold and are recognized at the time the product is sold.

## 4.Long-Term Debt and Fair Value Disclosure

The fair value of the Company's long-term debt is estimated based on the current rates offered to the Company for debt of the same or similar issues. The fair value of the Company's long-term debt was approximately $\$ 891,000$ and $\$ 841,000$, at January 31, 2015 and April 30, 2014, respectively. The Company has an aggregate $\$ 100,000$ line of credit with $\$ 18,500$ owed at January 31, 2015 and no balance owed at April 30, 2014.

## 5.Disclosure of Compensation Related Costs, Share Based Payments

The 2009 Stock Incentive Plan (the "Plan"), was approved by the Board in June 2009 and approved by the shareholders in September 2009. The Plan replaced the 2000 Option Plan and the Non-employee Director Stock Plan (together, the "Prior Plans"). There are $3,893,708$ shares still available for grant at January 31, 2015. Awards made under the Plan may take the form of stock options, restricted stock or restricted stock units. Each share issued pursuant to a stock option will reduce the shares available for grant by one, and each share issued pursuant to an award of restricted stock or restricted stock units will reduce the shares available for grant by two. We account for stock-based compensation by estimating the fair value of stock options and restricted stock unit awards granted under the Plan using the market price of a share of our common stock on the date of grant. We recognize this fair value as an operating expense in our consolidated statements of income ratably over the requisite service period using the straight-line method, as adjusted for certain retirement provisions. Additional information regarding the Plan is provided in the Company's 2009 Proxy Statement.

On June 7, 2013 and June 19, 2013 restricted stock units with respect to a total of 77,650 shares were granted to certain officers and key employees. These awards were granted at no cost to the grantee. These awards will vest on June 7, 2016.

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On September 13, 2013, restricted stock units totaling 14,000 shares were granted to the non-employee members of the Board. This award was granted at no cost to the non-employee members of the Board. This award vested on May 1, 2014.
On June 6,2014 , restricted stock units with respect to a total of 91,000 shares were granted to certain officers and key employees. These awards were granted at no cost to the grantee. The fair value of these awards was $\$ 6,584$. These awards will vest on June 6, 2017.
On June 6, 2014, restricted stock totaling 30,538 shares were granted to certain officers and key employees. The award was due to the financial performance of the Company based upon the 2014 annual incentive performance goals, and was granted at no cost to the grantee. The awards vested immediately upon grant and the fair value was $\$ 2,209$ at the time of the grant.
On September 19, 2014, restricted stock totaling 13,955 shares were granted to the non-employee members of the Board. This award was granted at no cost to the non-employee members of the Board. The awards vested immediately upon grant and the fair value was $\$ 990$ at the time of the grant.
At January 31, 2015, options for 436,515 shares (which expire between 2015 and 2021) were outstanding for the Plan and Prior Plans. Information concerning the issuance of stock options under the Plan and Prior Plans is presented in the following table:

Outstanding at April 30, 2014
Granted
Exercised
Forfeited
Outstanding at January 31, 2015

| Number of option shares | Weighted average option exercise price |
| :---: | :---: |
| 712,024 | \$36.73 |
| - | - |
| 275,509 | 38.24 |
| - | - |
| 436,515 | \$35.77 |

At January 31, 2015, all outstanding options had an aggregate intrinsic value of $\$ 24,238$ and a weighted average remaining contractual life of 5.23 years. All outstanding options are vested at January 31, 2015. The vested options totaled 436,515 shares with a weighted average exercise price of 35.77 per share and a weighted average remaining contractual life of 5.23 years. The aggregate intrinsic value for the total of all options exercised during the nine months ended January 31, 2015, was $\$ 11,199$. The fair value of options vested during the nine months ended January 31, 2015 was $\$ 6,270$.
Information concerning the issuance of restricted stock units under the Plan is presented in the following table:

Unvested at April 30, 2014
Granted
Vested
Forfeited
Unvested at January 31, 2015

Total compensation costs recorded for the nine months ended January 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively, were $\$ 6,292$ and $\$ 4,001$ for the stock option, restricted stock, and restricted stock unit awards. As of January 31, 2015, there were no unrecognized compensation costs related to the Plan for stock options and $\$ 6,791$ of unrecognized compensation costs related to restricted stock units which are expected to be recognized ratably through fiscal 2018.

## 6.Acquisitions

During the first nine months of fiscal 2015, the Company acquired 32 stores through a variety of single store and multi-store transactions with several unrelated third parties. The stores were valued using a discounted cash flow model on a location by location basis. The acquisitions were recorded in the financial statements by allocating the purchase price to the assets acquired, including intangible assets and liabilities assumed, based on their estimated fair values at the

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acquisition date. The excess of the cost of the acquisition over the net amounts assigned to the fair value of the assets acquired and the liabilities assumed is recorded as goodwill. All of the goodwill associated with these transactions will be deductible for income tax purposes over 15 years.

Allocation of the purchase price for the transactions in aggregate is as follows:

| Assets acquired: | $\$ 2,675$ |
| :--- | ---: |
| Inventories | 27,815 |
| Property and equipment | 30,490 |
| Total assets |  |
| Liabilities assumed: | 57 |
| Accrued expenses | 30,433 |
| Net tangible assets acquired, net of cash | 6,640 |
| Goodwill and other intangible assets | $\$ 37,073$ |
| Total consideration paid, net of cash acquired |  |
| The allocation of the purchase price to assets acquired and liabilities assumed is preliminary pending finalization of |  |
| management's analysis. |  |
| The following unaudited pro forma information presents a summary of our consolidated results of operations as if the |  |
| transactions referenced above occurred at the beginning of the first fiscal year of the periods presented (amounts in |  |
| thousands, except per share data): |  |


|  | Nine month |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | January 31, |  |
|  | 2015 | 2014 |
| Total revenues | \$6,128,936 | 6,016,403 |
| Net earnings (1) | 139,471 | 107,118 |
| Earnings per common share: (1) |  |  |
| Basic | \$3.60 | 2.79 |
| Diluted | \$3.58 | 2.76 |

Due to the revision of the financial statements described in the Form 10-K/A (Amendment No. 1) filed on (1)December 10, 2014, net earnings and earnings per common share for the nine months ended January 31, 2014 have been revised.

## 7. Commitments and Contingencies

As previously reported, the Company was named as a defendant in four lawsuits ("hot fuel" cases) brought in the federal courts in Kansas and Missouri against a variety of fuel retailers, which were consolidated in the U.S. District Court for the District of Kansas in Kansas City, Kansas as part of the multidistrict "Motor Fuel Temperature Sales Practices Litigation". On November 20, 2012, the Court preliminarily approved the previously-reported settlement involving the Company, which when approved in final form by the Court following notice to the Class would result in the settlement and dismissal of all claims against Casey's in the multidistrict litigation. The preliminarily approved settlement includes, but is not limited to, a commitment on the part of the Company to "sticker" certain information on its fuel pumps and make a monetary payment (which is not considered to be material in amount) to the plaintiff class. The process of notice to the class began in February 2015 with notice being published in various media outlets including selected radio stations and newspapers. Objections and exclusions to the proposed settlement must be submitted electronically or postmarked by March 23, 2015. The Fairness Hearing to consider whether the settlements are fair, reasonable and adequate is currently scheduled for June 9, 2015.

From time to time we may be involved in other legal and administrative proceedings or investigations arising from the conduct of our business operations, including contractual disputes; employment or personnel matters; personal injury and property damage claims; and claims by federal, state, and local regulatory authorities relating to the sale of

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products pursuant to licenses and permits issued by those authorities. Claims for compensatory or exemplary damages in those actions may be substantial. While the outcome of such litigation, proceedings, investigations, or claims is never certain, it is our opinion, after taking into consideration legal counsel's assessment and the availability of insurance proceeds and other collateral sources to cover potential losses, that the ultimate disposition of such matters currently pending or threatened, individually or cumulatively, will not have a material adverse effect on our consolidated financial position and results of operation.

## 8. Unrecognized Tax Benefits

The total amount of gross unrecognized tax benefits was $\$ 9,224$ at April 30, 2014. At January 31, 2015, gross unrecognized tax benefits were $\$ 10,307$. If this unrecognized tax benefit were ultimately recognized, $\$ 6,736$ is the amount that would impact our effective tax rate. The total amount of accrued interest and penalties for such unrecognized tax benefits was $\$ 226$ at January 31, 2015, and $\$ 402$ at April 30, 2014. Net interest and penalties included in income tax expense for the nine months ended January 31, 2015, was a net benefit of $\$ 176$ and an expense of $\$ 146$ for the same period of 2014.
A number of years may elapse before an uncertain tax position is audited and ultimately settled. It is difficult to predict the ultimate outcome or the timing of resolution for uncertain tax positions. It is reasonably possible that the amount of unrecognized tax benefits could significantly increase or decrease within the next twelve months. These changes could result from the expiration of the statute of limitations, examinations or other unforeseen circumstances. The State of Illinois is examining tax years 2011 and 2012. The Company currently has no other ongoing federal or state income tax examinations. The Company does not have any outstanding litigation related to tax matters. At this time, management expects the aggregate amount of unrecognized tax benefits to decrease by approximately $\$ 2,352$ within the next twelve months. The expected decrease is due to the expiration of the statute of limitations related to certain federal and state income tax filings positions.
The federal statute of limitation remains open for the tax years 2011 and forward. Tax years 2009 and forward are subject to audit by state tax authorities depending on open statute of limitations waivers and the tax code of each state.

## 9. Segment Reporting

As of January 31, 2015 we operated 1,869 stores in 14 states. Our stores offer a broad selection of merchandise, fuel and other products and services designed to appeal to the convenience needs of our customers. We manage the business on the basis of one operating segment. Our stores sell similar products and services, use similar processes to sell those products and services, and sell their products and services to similar classes of customers. We make specific disclosures concerning the three broad merchandise categories of fuel, grocery \& other merchandise, and prepared food and fountain because it makes it easier for us to discuss trends and operational initiatives within our business and industry. Although we can separate gross margins within these categories (and further sub-categories), the operating expenses associated with operating a store that sells these products are not separable by these three categories.

## 10. Subsequent Events

Events that have occurred subsequent to January 31, 2015 have been evaluated for disclosure through the filing date of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q with the SEC.

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Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations (Dollars in Thousands).
Please read the following discussion of the Company's financial condition and results of operations in conjunction with the Form 10-K/A (Amendment No. 1) filed on December 10, 2014, regarding an immaterial correction of errors. Overview
Casey's General Stores, Inc. ("Casey's") and its wholly-owned subsidiaries (Casey's, together with its subsidiaries, are referred to herein as the "Company") operate convenience stores primarily under the name "Casey's General Store" (hereinafter referred to as "Casey's Store" or "Stores") in 14 Midwestern states, primarily Iowa, Missouri and Illinois. The Company also operates one stand-alone pizza delivery and carry-out store and one store selling primarily tobacco products. On January 31, 2015, there were a total of 1,869 Casey's Stores in operation. All convenience stores offer fuel for sale on a self-serve basis and most stores carry a broad selection of food (including freshly prepared foods such as pizza, donuts and sandwiches), beverages, tobacco products, health and beauty aids, automotive products and other non-food items. The Company derives its revenue primarily from the retail sale of fuel and the products offered in its stores.
Approximately $57 \%$ of all Casey's Stores are located in areas with populations of fewer than 5,000 persons, while approximately $17 \%$ of all stores are located in communities with populations exceeding 20,000 persons. The Company operates a central warehouse, the Casey's Distribution Center, adjacent to its Corporate Headquarters facility in Ankeny, Iowa, through which it supplies grocery and general merchandise items to stores. At January 31, 2015, the Company owned the land at 1,847 locations and the buildings at 1,852 locations, and leased the land at 22 locations and the buildings at 17 locations.
The Company reported diluted earnings per common share of $\$ 1.01$ for the third quarter of fiscal 2015. For the same quarter a year-ago, diluted earnings per common share were $\$ 0.33$.
During the first nine months, the Company opened 33 new-store constructions, completed 25 replacement stores, acquired 32 stores, opened one store from a prior year acquisition, and closed five stores. The annual goal is to build or acquire 72 to 108 stores and replace 25 existing locations.
The third quarter results reflected a $2.2 \%$ increase in same-store fuel gallons sold, with an average margin of 22.0 cents per gallon, primarily driven by a favorable fuel margin environment that was the result of declining wholesale fuel costs. The Company policy is to price to the competition, so the timing of retail price changes is driven by local competitive conditions.
Same-store sales of grocery and other merchandise increased $7.7 \%$ and prepared foods and fountain increased $14.1 \%$ during the third quarter. Operating expenses increased $11.2 \%$ in the quarter primarily due to 86 more stores in operation compared to the same period a year ago, and the expansion of our operating initiatives in our stores (expanded hours at select locations, stores with pizza delivery, and major remodels).

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Three Months Ended January 31, 2015 Compared to
Three Months Ended January 31, 2014
(Dollars and Amounts in Thousands)
$\left.\begin{array}{lllllll}\text { Three months ended } 1 / 31 / 2015 & \text { Fuel } & \begin{array}{l}\text { Grocery \& } \\ \text { Other } \\ \text { Merchandise }\end{array} & \begin{array}{l}\text { Prepared } \\ \text { Food \& }\end{array} & \begin{array}{l}\text { Fountain }\end{array} & & \text { Ther }\end{array}\right)$
(1) Due to the immaterial error discussed in the Form 10-K/A (Amendment No. 1) filed on December 10, 2014, the ${ }^{(1)}$ numbers for Gross profit for fuel, Margin for fuel, Gross profit total, and Margin total have been revised. Total revenue for the third quarter of fiscal 2015 decreased by $\$ 118,094$ ( $6.6 \%$ ) over the comparable period in fiscal 2014. Retail fuel sales decreased by $\$ 199,316(15.9 \%)$ as the average retail price per gallon decreased $22.5 \%$ (amounting to a $\$ 307,517$ decrease), and the number of gallons sold increased by $35,453(8.6 \%)$. During this same period, retail sales of grocery and other merchandise increased by $\$ 47,865$ ( $13.1 \%$ ), primarily due to a $\$ 20,669$ increase from stores that were built or acquired after April 30, 2013 and a $\$ 7,635$ increase from the expansion of our operating initiatives in our stores. Prepared food and fountain sales also increased by $\$ 32,193$ ( $20.3 \%$ ), due primarily to a $\$ 8,952$ increase from stores that were built or acquired after April 30, 2013 and a $\$ 5,674$ increase from the expansion of our operating initiatives in our stores.

The other revenue category primarily consists of lottery, prepaid phone cards, newspaper, money orders, automated teller machine (ATM) commissions, propane, car wash, and video rental revenues received. These revenues increased $\$ 1,164(10.4 \%)$ for the third quarter of fiscal 2015 primarily due to the increases in lottery receipts and car wash revenues from the comparable period in the prior year.
Total gross profit margin was $21.0 \%$ for the third quarter of fiscal 2015 , compared to $15.5 \%$ for the comparable period in the prior year. The gross profit margin on retail fuel sales increased (to 9.3\%) during the third quarter of fiscal 2015 from the third quarter of the prior year ( $4.5 \%$ ). The gross profit margin per gallon also increased (to $\$ .2203$ ) in the third quarter of fiscal 2015 from the comparable period in the prior year (\$.1359) primarily due to the favorable fuel margin environment and declining retail prices, as well as an increase ( $\$ 5.0 \mathrm{M}$ ) in renewable fuel credits sold from the comparable quarter in the prior year. The gross profit margin on retail sales of grocery and other merchandise was up slightly (at $31.2 \%$ ) over the comparable period in the prior year ( $31.1 \%$ ). The prepared food margin decreased (to $58.7 \%$ ) from the comparable period in the prior year ( $60.8 \%$ ) primarily due to higher input costs and increased stales. Operating expenses increased $\$ 24,111(11.2 \%)$ in the third quarter of fiscal 2015 from the comparable period in the prior year primarily due to an $\$ 11,051$ increase from stores that were built or acquired after April 30, 2013 and a $\$ 2,736$ increase from the expansion of our operating initiatives in our stores. Operating expenses as a percentage of total revenue were $14.3 \%$ for the third quarter of fiscal 2015 compared to $12.0 \%$ for the comparable period in the prior year, primarily due to declining fuel prices. The store level operating expenses for open stores not impacted by the initiatives were up approximately $2.4 \%$ for the quarter.

Depreciation and amortization expense increased $23.7 \%$ to $\$ 40,431$ in the third quarter of fiscal 2015 from $\$ 32,687$ for the comparable period in the prior year. The increase was due primarily to capital expenditures made during the previous twelve months.

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The effective tax rate increased 210 basis points to $36.2 \%$ in the third quarter of fiscal 2015 from $34.1 \%$ in the third quarter of fiscal 2014. Higher book income for the quarter year-over-year without similar increases in permanent tax differences drove 200 basis points of the increase.
Net income increased by $\$ 26,666$ ( $210.7 \%$ ) to $\$ 39,319$ from $\$ 12,653$ in the prior year. The increase in net income was attributable primarily to the favorable fuel margin environment and increases in same-store sales. However, this was partially offset by increases in operating expenses and depreciation compared to the prior year.

Nine Months Ended January 31, 2015 Compared to
Nine Months Ended January 31, 2014
(Dollars and Amounts in Thousands)
$\left.\begin{array}{llllllll} & \text { Fuel } & \begin{array}{l}\text { Grocery \& } \\ \text { Other } \\ \text { Merchandise }\end{array} & \begin{array}{l}\text { Prepared } \\ \text { Food \& } \\ \text { Fountain }\end{array} & \text { Other }\end{array}\right)$
(1) Due to the immaterial error discussed in the Form 10-K/A (Amendment No. 1) filed on December 10, 2014, the ${ }^{(1)}$ numbers for Gross profit for fuel, Margin for fuel, Gross profit total, and Margin total have been revised.
Total revenue for the first nine months of fiscal 2015 increased by $\$ 192,669$ ( $3.3 \%$ ) over the comparable period in fiscal 2014. Retail fuel sales decreased by $\$ 53,276(1.3 \%)$ as the average retail price per gallon decreased $9.2 \%$ (amounting to a $\$ 384,733$ decrease) while the number of gallons sold increased by 109,963 ( $8.7 \%$ ). During this same period, retail sales of grocery and other merchandise increased by $\$ 153,248$ ( $12.7 \%$ ), primarily due to a $\$ 67,077$ increase from stores that were built or acquired after April 30, 2013 and a $\$ 27,499$ increase from the expansion of our operating initiatives in our stores. Prepared food and fountain sales also increased by $\$ 90,000(18.1 \%)$, due primarily to a $\$ 26,937$ increase from stores that were built or acquired after April 30, 2013 and an $\$ 17,892$ increase from the expansion of our operating initiatives in our stores.
The other revenue category primarily consists of lottery, prepaid phone cards, newspaper, money orders, automated teller machine (ATM) commissions, propane, car wash, and video rental revenues received. These revenues increased $\$ 2,697(8.5 \%)$ through the third quarter of fiscal 2015 primarily due to the increases in lottery receipts and car wash revenues from the comparable period in the prior year.

Total gross profit margin was $17.9 \%$ for the first nine months of fiscal 2015, compared to $15.8 \%$ for the comparable period in the prior year. The gross profit margin on retail fuel sales increased (to $6.7 \%$ ) during the first nine months of fiscal 2015 from the first nine months of the prior year (5.1\%). The gross profit margin per gallon also increased (to $\$ .2011$ ) in the first nine months of fiscal 2015 from the comparable period in the prior year (\$.1703) primarily due to the favorable fuel margin environment and declining retail prices, offset by a decrease of approximately $\$ 3.5$ million less renewable fuel credits sold from the prior year. The gross profit margin on retail sales of grocery and other merchandise decreased slightly (to $32.0 \%$ ) from the comparable period in the prior year ( $32.1 \%$ ). The prepared food
margin also decreased (to $59.3 \%$ ) from the comparable period in the prior year ( $61.5 \%$ ) primarily due to higher input costs of cheese, meat, and supplies.
Operating expenses increased $\$ 80,707$ ( $12.5 \%$ ) in the first nine months of fiscal 2015 from the comparable period in the prior year primarily due to a $\$ 34,762$ increase from stores that were built or acquired after April 30, 2013 and a $\$ 12,546$ increase from the expansion of our operating initiatives in our stores. Operating expenses as a percentage of total revenue were

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$11.9 \%$ for the first nine months of fiscal 2015 compared to $10.9 \%$ for the comparable period in the prior year. The store level operating expenses for open stores not impacted by the initiatives were up approximately $4.2 \%$ for the first nine months of fiscal 2015.
Depreciation and amortization expense increased $19.2 \%$ to $\$ 113,955$ in the first nine months of fiscal 2015 from $\$ 95,604$ for the comparable period in the prior year. The increase was due primarily to capital expenditures made during the previous twelve months.

The effective tax rate increased 60 basis points to $36.8 \%$ in the first nine months of fiscal year 2015 compared to $36.2 \%$ in the comparable period of fiscal year 2014. The increase in the effective tax rate was related to a non-recurring prior period adjustment for stock based compensation tax benefits that was recorded in the second quarter of fiscal 2014. The effective tax rate also increased due to higher book income without similar increases in permanent tax differences.
Net income increased by $\$ 33,407$ ( $31.6 \%$ ) to $\$ 139,285$ from $\$ 105,878$ in the prior year. The increase in net income was attributable primarily to the favorable fuel margin environment and increases in same store sales. However, this was partially offset by increases in operating expenses and depreciation compared to prior year.
Use of Non-GAAP Measures
We define EBITDA as net income before net interest expense, depreciation and amortization, and income taxes. Adjusted EBITDA further adjusts EBITDA by excluding the gain or loss on disposal of assets as well as impairment charges. Both EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA are not presented in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States of America ("GAAP").

We believe EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA are useful to investors in evaluating our operating performance because securities analysts and other interested parties use such calculations as a measure of financial performance and debt service capabilities, and they are regularly used by management for internal purposes including our capital budgeting process, evaluating acquisition targets, and assessing store performance.
EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA are not recognized terms under GAAP and should not be considered as a substitute for net income, cash flows from operating activities or other income or cash flow statement data. These measures have limitations as analytical tools, and should not be considered in isolation or as substitutes for analysis of our results as reported under GAAP. We strongly encourage investors to review our financial statements and publicly filed reports in their entirety and not to rely on any single financial measure.
Because non-GAAP financial measures are not standardized, EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA, as defined by us, may not be comparable to similarly titled measures reported by other companies. It therefore may not be possible to compare our use of these non-GAAP financial measures with those used by other companies.
The following table contains a reconciliation of net income to EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA for the nine months ended January 31, 2015 and 2014:

|  | Three months ended |  | Nine months ended |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | January 31, | January 31, | January 31, | January 31, |
|  | 2015 | $2014(1)$ | 2015 | $2014(1)$ |
| Net income | $\$ 39,319$ | 12,653 | $\$ 139,285$ | 105,878 |
| Interest, net | 10,191 | 10,123 | 31,057 | 29,595 |
| Depreciation and amortization | 40,431 | 32,687 | 113,955 | 95,604 |
| Federal and state income taxes | 22,323 | 6,556 | 81,064 | 60,145 |
| EBITDA | $\$ 112,264$ | 62,019 | $\$ 365,361$ | 291,222 |
| Loss (gain) on disposal of assets and impairment | 452 | 817 | 584 | 2,880 |
| charges | $\$ 112,716$ | 62,836 | $\$ 365,945$ | 294,102 |

Due to the immaterial error discussed in the Form 10-K/A (Amendment No. 1) filed on December 10, 2014, these numbers have been revised.

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For the three months ended January 31, 2015, EBITDA and adjusted EBITDA were up 81.0\% and 79.4\% respectively, when compared to the same period a year ago. The increase is primarily due to a $\$ 0.077$ per gallon increase in fuel margin, $7.7 \%$ and $14.1 \%$ same-store sale increases for grocery and other merchandise and prepared food and fountain, respectively, as well as operating 86 more stores than a year ago. These increases were partially offset by a 210 basis point reduction in prepared food and fountain margin. For the nine months ended January 31, 2015, EBITDA and adjusted EBITDA were up $25.5 \%$ and $24.4 \%$, respectively, when compared to the same period a year ago. The increase is primarily related to a $\$ .028$ per gallon increase in fuel margin, operating 86 more stores than a year ago and $7.3 \%$ and $12.0 \%$ same store sale increases for grocery and other merchandise and prepared food and fountain, respectively. These increases were partially offset by a 220 basis point reduction in prepared food and fountain margin.

## Critical Accounting Policies

Critical accounting policies are those accounting policies that management believes are important to the portrayal of the Company's financial condition and results of operations.
Inventory. Inventories, which consist of merchandise and fuel, are stated at the lower of cost or market. For fuel, cost is determined through the use of the first-in, first-out (FIFO) method. For merchandise inventories, cost is determined through the use of the last-in, first-out (LIFO) method for financial and income tax reporting purposes. This is applied to inventory values determined primarily by our FIFO accounting system for warehouse inventories.
Vendor allowances include rebates and other funds received from vendors to promote their products. The Company often receives such allowances on the basis of quantitative contract terms that vary by product and vendor or directly on the basis of purchases made. Vendor rebates in the form of rack display allowances are treated as a reduction in cost of goods sold and are recognized incrementally over the period covered by the applicable rebate agreement. The rack display allowances are funds that we receive from various vendors for allocating certain shelf space to carry their specific products or to introduce new products in our stores for a particular period of time. These funds do not represent reimbursements of specific, incremental, identifiable costs incurred by us in selling the vendor's products. Vendor rebates in the form of billbacks are treated as a reduction in cost of goods sold and are recognized at the time the product is sold. Reimbursements of an operating expense (e.g., advertising) are recorded as reductions of the related expense.
Goodwill. Goodwill and intangible assets with indefinite lives are tested for impairment at least annually. The Company assesses impairment annually at year-end using a market based approach to establish fair value. All of the goodwill assigned to the individual stores is aggregated into a single reporting unit due to the similar economic characteristics of the stores. As of January 31, 2015, there was $\$ 127,046$ of goodwill. Management's analysis of recoverability completed as of the fiscal year end yielded no evidence of impairment and no events have occurred since the annual test indicating a potential impairment.
Long-lived Assets. The Company periodically monitors under-performing stores to assess whether the carrying amount of assets may not be recoverable. If the sum of the expected future undiscounted cash flows is less than the carrying amount of the assets, an impairment loss is recognized to the extent the carrying value of the assets exceeds their estimated fair value. Fair value is based on management's estimate of the future cash flows to be generated and the amount that could be realized from the sale of assets in a current transaction between willing parties, which are considered Level 3 inputs. The estimate is derived from offers, actual sale or disposition of assets subsequent to the reporting period, and other indications of fair value. In determining whether an asset is impaired, assets are grouped at the lowest level for which there are identifiable cash flows that are largely independent of the cash flows of other groups of assets, which for the Company is generally on a store-by-store basis. Management expects to continue its on-going evaluation of under-performing stores, and may periodically sell specific stores where further operational and marketing efforts are not likely to improve their performance. The Company incurred impairment charges of \$605 and $\$ 2,384$ during the nine months ended January 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively. Impairment charges are a component of operating expenses.
Self-insurance. The Company is primarily self-insured for employee health care, workers' compensation, general liability, and automobile claims. The self-insurance claim liability is determined actuarially at each year end based on
claims filed and an estimate of claims incurred but not yet reported. Actuarial projections of the losses are employed due to the high degree of variability in the liability estimates. Some factors affecting the uncertainty of claims include the time frame of development, settlement patterns, litigation and adjudication direction, and medical treatment and cost trends. The liability is not discounted.
Liquidity and Capital Resources (Dollars in Thousands)
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Due to the nature of the Company's business, cash provided by operations is the Company's primary source of liquidity. The Company finances its inventory purchases primarily from normal trade credit aided by the relatively rapid turnover of inventory. This turnover allows the Company to conduct its operations without large amounts of cash and working capital. As of January 31, 2015, the Company's ratio of current assets to current liabilities was 0.79 to 1 . The ratio at January 31, 2014 and April 30, 2014 was 1.03 to 1 and 1 to 1, respectively. Management believes that the Company's current aggregate $\$ 100,000$ bank line of credit, together with the current cash and cash equivalents and the future cash flow from operations will be sufficient to satisfy the working capital needs of our business. Net cash provided by operations increased $\$ 29,174$ (13.8\%) in the nine months ended January 31, 2015 from the comparable period in the prior year, primarily as a result of a large increase in net income offset by decreases in accounts payable and accrued expenses. Cash used in investing in the nine months ended January 31, 2015 increased due to the increase in the store development and acquisition activity. Cash provided by financing decreased, primarily due to the proceeds from long-term debt in the prior period, offset by the net borrowing of short term debt. Capital expenditures represent the single largest use of Company funds. Management believes that by acquiring, building, and reinvesting in stores, the Company will be better able to respond to competitive challenges and increase operating efficiencies. During the first nine months of fiscal 2015, the Company expended $\$ 329,217$ primarily for property and equipment, resulting from the construction, remodeling, and acquisition of stores, compared to $\$ 269,131$ for the comparable period in the prior year. At the beginning of the year, the Company had anticipated expending between $\$ 360,000$ and $\$ 410,000$ in fiscal 2015 for construction, acquisition and remodeling of stores, primarily from existing cash and funds generated by operations.

As of January 31, 2015, the Company had long-term debt of $\$ 845,846$, (net of current maturities of $\$ 7,893$ ), consisting of $\$ 569,000$ in principal amount of $5.22 \%$ Senior Notes, $\$ 150,000$ in principal amount of $3.67 \%$ Senior Notes, Series A, $\$ 50,000$ in principal amount of $3.75 \%$ Senior Notes Series B, $\$ 67,500$ in principal amount of $5.72 \%$ Senior Notes, Series A and B, and $\$ 9,346$ of capital lease obligations. The Company also has an aggregate $\$ 100,000$ line of credit with $\$ 18,500$ owed at January 31, 2015.
To date, the Company has funded capital expenditures primarily from the proceeds of the sale of Common Stock, issuance of $6-1 / 4 \%$ Convertible Subordinated Debentures (which were converted into shares of Common Stock in 1994), the Senior Notes, a mortgage note, existing cash, and funds generated from operations. Future capital needs required to finance operations, improvements and the anticipated growth in the number of stores are expected to be met from cash generated by operations, the bank line of credit, and additional long-term debt or other securities as circumstances may dictate, and are not expected to adversely affect liquidity.
Cautionary Statements (Dollars in Thousands)
This Form 10-Q, including the foregoing Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, contains various "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Forward-looking statements represent the Company's expectations or beliefs concerning future events, including (i) any statements regarding future sales and gross profit percentages, (ii) any statements regarding the continuation of historical trends and (iii) any statements regarding the sufficiency of the Company's cash balances and cash generated from operations and financing activities for the Company's future liquidity and capital resource needs. The words "believe," "expect," "anticipate," "intend," "estimate," "project" and similar expressions are used to identify forward-looking statements. The Company cautions that these statements are further qualified by important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those in the forward-looking statements, including, without limitations, the following factors described more completely in the Form 10-K/A for the fiscal year ended April 30, 2014:
Competition. The Company's business is highly competitive, and marked by ease of entry and constant change in terms of the numbers and type of retailers offering the products and services found in stores. Many of the food (including prepared foods) and non-food items similar or identical to those sold by the Company are generally available from a variety of competitors in the communities served by stores, and the Company competes with other convenience store chains, gasoline stations, supermarkets, drug stores, discount stores, club stores, mass merchants and "fast-food" outlets (with respect to the sale of prepared foods). Sales of such non-fuel items (particularly prepared
food items) have contributed substantially to the Company's gross profits from retail sales in recent years. Fuel sales are also intensely competitive. The Company competes with both independent and national brand gasoline stations in the sale of fuel, other convenience store chains and several non-traditional fuel retailers such as supermarkets in specific markets. Some of these other fuel retailers may have access to more favorable arrangements for fuel supply then do the Company or the firms that supply its stores. Some of the Company's

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competitors have greater financial, marketing and other resources than the Company, and, as a result, may be able to respond better to changes in the economy and new opportunities within the industry.
Fuel operations. Fuel sales are an important part of the Company's sales and earnings, and retail fuel profit margins have a substantial impact on the Company's net earnings. Profit margins on fuel sales can be adversely affected by factors beyond the control of the Company, including the supply of fuel available in the retail fuel market, uncertainty or volatility in the wholesale fuel market, increases in wholesale fuel costs generally during a period and price competition from other fuel marketers. The market for crude oil and domestic wholesale petroleum products is marked by significant volatility, and is affected by general political conditions and instability in oil producing regions such as the Middle East and South America. The volatility of the wholesale fuel market makes it extremely difficult to predict the impact of future wholesale cost fluctuation on the Company's operating results and financial conditions. These factors could materially impact the Company's fuel gallon volume, fuel gross profit and overall customer traffic levels at stores. Any substantial decrease in profit margins on fuel sales or in the number of gallons sold by stores could have a material adverse effect on the Company's earnings.
The Company purchases its fuel from a variety of independent national and regional petroleum distributors. Fuel is purchased at current daily prices at the rack in which the fuel is loaded onto tanker trucks. While the Company has annual purchase agreements with a few distributors, those agreements primarily specify purchasing volumes the Company must maintain to be eligible for certain discounts. Although in recent years the Company's suppliers have not experienced any difficulties in obtaining sufficient amounts of fuel to meet the Company's needs, unanticipated national and international events could result in a reduction of fuel supplies available for distribution to the Company. Any substantial curtailment in fuel supplied to the Company could adversely affect the Company by reducing its fuel sales. Further, management believes that a significant amount of the Company's business results from the patronage of customers primarily desiring to purchase fuel and, accordingly, reduced fuel supplies could adversely affect the sale of non-fuel items. Such factors could have a material adverse impact upon the Company's earnings and operations. Tobacco Products. Sales of tobacco products represent a significant portion of the Company's grocery and other merchandise category. Significant increases in wholesale cigarette costs and tax increases on tobacco products, as well as national and local campaigns to further regulate and discourage smoking in the United States, have had, and are expected to continue having, an adverse effect on the demand for cigarettes sold in our stores. The Company attempts to pass price increases onto its customers, but competitive pressures in specific markets may prevent it from doing so. These factors could materially impact the retail price of cigarettes, the volume of cigarettes sold by stores and overall customer traffic, and have a material adverse impact on the Company's earnings and profits.

Environmental Compliance Costs. The United States Environmental Protection Agency and several states, including Iowa, have established requirements for owners and operators of underground gasoline storage tanks (USTs) with regard to (i) maintenance of leak detection, corrosion protection and overfill/spill protection systems; (ii) upgrade of existing tanks; (iii) actions required in the event of a detected leak; (iv) prevention of leakage through tank closings; and (v) required gasoline inventory recordkeeping. Since 1984, new Company stores have been equipped with non-corroding fiberglass USTs, including many with double-wall construction, over-fill protection and electronic tank monitoring. The Company currently has 4,322 USTs, of which 3,392 are fiberglass and 930 are steel. Management believes that its existing fuel procedures and planned capital expenditures will continue to keep the Company in substantial compliance with all current federal and state UST regulations.
Several of the states in which the Company does business have trust fund programs with provisions for sharing or reimbursing corrective action or remediation costs incurred by UST owners, including the Company. In the years ended April 30, 2014 and 2013, the Company spent approximately $\$ 1,224$ and $\$ 899$, respectively, for assessments and remediation. During the nine months ended January 31, 2015, the Company expended approximately $\$ 1,135$ for such purposes. Substantially all of these expenditures have been submitted for reimbursement from state-sponsored trust fund programs and as of January 31, 2015, approximately $\$ 17,446$ has been received from such programs since their inception. Such amounts are typically subject to statutory provisions requiring repayment of the reimbursed funds for non-compliance with upgrade provisions or other applicable laws. No amounts are currently expected to be repaid. The Company has an accrued liability at January 31, 2015 of approximately $\$ 406$ for estimated expenses related to

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anticipated corrective actions or remediation efforts, including relevant legal and consulting costs. Management believes the Company has no material joint and several environmental liability with other parties.
Although the Company regularly accrues expenses for the estimated costs related to its future corrective action or remediation efforts, there can be no assurance that such accrued amounts will be sufficient to pay such costs, or that the Company has identified all environmental liabilities at all of its current store locations. In addition, there can be no assurance

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that the Company will not incur substantial expenditures in the future for remediation of contamination or related claims that have not been discovered or asserted with respect to existing store locations or locations that the Company may acquire in the future, or that the Company will not be subject to any claims for reimbursement of funds disbursed to the Company under the various state programs or that additional regulations, or amendments to existing regulations, will not require additional expenditures beyond those presently anticipated.

Other Factors. Other factors and risks that may cause actual results to differ materially from those in the forward-looking statements include the risk that our cash balances and cash generated from operations and financing activities will not be sufficient for our future liquidity and capital resource needs, tax increases, potential liabilities and expenditures related to compliance with environmental and other laws and regulations, the seasonality of demand patterns, and weather conditions; the increased indebtedness that the Company has incurred to purchase shares of our common stock in our self-tender offer; and the other risks and uncertainties included from time to time in our filings with the SEC. We further caution you that other factors we have not identified may in the future prove to be important in affecting our business and results of operations. We ask you not to place undue reliance on any forward-looking statements because they speak only of our views as of the statement dates. We undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events, or otherwise. Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk.
The Company's exposure to market risk for changes in interest rates relates primarily to our investment portfolio and long-term debt obligations. We place our investments with high-quality credit issuers and, by policy, limit the amount of credit exposure to any one issuer. Our first priority is to reduce the risk of principal loss. Consequently, we seek to preserve our invested funds by limiting default risk, market risk, and reinvestment risk. We mitigate default risk by investing in only high-quality credit securities that we believe to be low risk and by positioning our portfolio to respond appropriately to a significant reduction in a credit rating of any investment issuer or guarantor. The portfolio includes only marketable securities with active secondary or resale markets to ensure portfolio liquidity. We believe an immediate 100 -basis-point move in interest rates affecting our floating and fixed rate financial instruments as of January 31, 2015 would have no material effect on pretax earnings.
We do from time to time, participate in a forward buy of certain commodities, primarily cheese and coffee. These contracts are not accounted for as derivatives as they meet the normal purchases exclusion under derivative accounting.
Item 4. Controls and Procedures.
(a)Evaluation of disclosure controls and procedures.

In the second quarter of fiscal year 2015, through a routine Internal Revenue Service (IRS) examination, management became aware that an immaterial understatement of federal excise tax liability occurred during the fiscal years 2012, 2013, and 2014 and the first quarter of fiscal year 2015. A control deficiency was identified with regards to the review and approval of quarterly federal excise tax returns by management with the requisite skill and knowledge, and recognition of the corresponding liability and expense. The internal controls in place during this time were not responsive to changes in circumstances. While the control deficiency did not result in a material misstatement to the Company's consolidated financial statements for any periods through and including the fiscal year ended April 30, 2014, or unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements for the first fiscal quarter of fiscal year 2015, it did represent a material weakness as of April 30, 2014, since there existed a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the Company's annual or interim financial statements would not be prevented or detected on a timely basis. The correction of these immaterial errors was recognized in revisions to our consolidated financial statements for the fiscal year ended April 30, 2014, filed on Form 10-K/A (Amendment No. 1) for the fiscal year ended April 30, 2014, and the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements filed on Form 10-Q/A (Amendment No. 1) for the quarter ended July 31, 2014.
The Company's chief executive officer and its chief financial officer evaluated the effectiveness of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures (as that term is defined in Rule 13a-15(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended) as of January 31, 2015. Our chief executive officer and chief financial officer concluded that, as a result

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of the material weakness in internal control over financial reporting described above and below, our disclosure controls and procedures were not effective as of January 31, 2015. In addition, prior to filing our Form 10-Q/A for the quarter ended July 31, 2014 and our Form 10-Q for the quarter ended October 31, 2014, both filed on December 10, 2014, the Company's chief executive officer and its chief financial officer evaluated the effectiveness of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures (as that term is defined in Rule 13a-15(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended) as of July 31, 2014 and as of

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October 31, 2014. Our chief executive officer and chief financial officer concluded that, as a result of the material weakness in internal control over financial reporting previously reported, our disclosure controls and procedures were not effective as of July 31, 2014 or October 31, 2014.
For purposes of Rule 13a-15(e), the term disclosure controls and procedures means controls and other procedures of an issuer that are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed by the issuer in the reports that it files or submits under the Act ( 15 U.S.C. 78a et seq.) is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the Commission's rules and forms. Disclosure controls and procedures include, without limitation, controls and procedures designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed by an issuer in the reports that it files or submits under the Act is accumulated and communicated to the issuer's management, including its chief executive and chief financial officer, or persons performing similar functions, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.
(b) Management's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting.

Our management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting, as such term is defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Under the supervision of the Audit Committee of the Board of Directors and with the participation of our management, including our chief executive officer and chief financial officer, we conducted an evaluation of the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting using the criteria established in Internal Control-Integrated Framework (1992) issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO). As a result of that evaluation, management identified the following control deficiency as of April 30, 2014, that constituted a material weakness:
Ineffective design and operation of controls regarding the review and approval of quarterly federal excise tax returns by management with the requisite skill and knowledge and recognition of the corresponding liability and expense. The internal controls in place at the time and subsequently were not responsive to changes in circumstances. The control deficiency resulted in errors in cost of goods sold, interest expense, net, federal and state income taxes, deferred income taxes, accrued expenses and retained earnings. These errors did not, individually or in the aggregate, result in a material misstatement to the Company's consolidated financial statements for any periods through and including the fiscal year ended April 30, 2014. However such control deficiencies could have resulted in a material misstatement to our annual or interim consolidated financial statements that would not be prevented or detected. Accordingly, management has determined that the lack of an independent control in place to review the federal excise tax returns constituted a material weakness on April 30, 2014.
The effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of April 30, 2014, has been audited by KPMG, our independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in their adverse report which is included in the Form 10-K/A (Amendment No. 1).
(c) Change in Internal Control over Financial Reporting.

In the second quarter of fiscal 2015, management concluded that there is a material weakness in internal control over financial reporting described above, and began actively planning for and implementing a remediation plan, as described below. Other than the changes disclosed above and below, there was no change in the Company's internal control over financial reporting which occurred during the Company's most recent fiscal quarter that materially affected, or was reasonably likely to materially affect the Company's internal control over financial reporting.
(d) Remediation.

In the second quarter of fiscal 2015, management became actively engaged in the planning for, and implementation of, remediation efforts to address the material weakness in our internal control over financial reporting identified above, and included preliminary details of its remediation plans in the Current Report on Form 8-K filed on November 24, 2014. After further discussion, management determined to clarify and refine those preliminary remediation plans and now has implemented or intends to implement the following steps:
preparation of the federal excise tax returns managed under the authority of the Company's Tax Department; review and approval of the completed federal excise tax returns by management with the requisite skill and knowledge;
enhance our information technology solutions to facilitate the preparation of the excise tax return and enhance monitoring of the payment of excise taxes;

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formalize the process by which the Tax Department will notify return preparers of any changes in the forms used for filings and or any necessary procedural changes to the process;
Management believes the measures described above and others that will be implemented will remediate the material weakness that we have identified. As management continues to evaluate and improve internal control over financial reporting, we may decide to take additional measures to address control deficiencies or determine to modify, or in appropriate circumstances not to complete, certain of the remediation measures identified.
Nonetheless, the chief executive officer and chief financial officer believe that the subsequent procedures we performed in connection with our preparation of this Form 10-Q provide reasonable assurance that the identified material weakness did not lead to material misstatements in our consolidated financial statements presented in this Form $10-\mathrm{Q}$ or prior periods and that the consolidated financial statements included in this Form 10-Q fairly present, in all material respects, our financial position, results of operations and cash flows as of the dates, and for the periods presented, in accordance with U.S. GAAP.
(e) Other.

The Company does not expect that our disclosure controls and procedures or our internal control over financial reporting will prevent all fraud and material errors. An internal control system, no matter how well conceived and operated, can provide only reasonable, not absolute, assurance that the objectives of the control system are met. Further, the design of a control system must reflect the fact that there are resource constraints, and the benefits of controls must be considered relative to their costs. Because of the inherent limitations on all internal control systems, our internal control system can provide only reasonable assurance of achieving its objectives and no evaluation of controls can provide absolute assurance that all control issues and occurrences of fraud, if any, within the Company have been detected. These inherent limitations include the realities that judgments in decision-making can be faulty, and that breakdowns can occur because of simple errors or mistakes. Additionally, controls can be circumvented by the individual acts of some persons, by collusion of two or more people, or by management override of the control. The design of any system of internal control is also based in part upon certain assumptions about the likelihood of future events, and can provide only reasonable, not absolute, assurance that any design will succeed in achieving its stated goals under all potential future conditions. Over time, controls may become inadequate because of changes in circumstances, or the degree of compliance with the policies and procedures may deteriorate.

## PART II—OTHER INFORMATION

Item 1. Legal Proceedings
The information required by this Item is set forth in Note 7 to the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements included in Part I, Item 1 of this Form 10-Q and is incorporated herein by this reference.
Item 1A. Risk Factors
There have been no material changes in our "risk factors" from those disclosed in our 2014 Annual Report on Form 10-K/A (Amendment No. 1).

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Item 6. Exhibits.
The following exhibits are filed with this Report or, if so indicated, incorporated by reference.

| Exhibit <br> No. | Description |
| :---: | :---: |
| 3.1 | Restatement of the Restated and Amended Articles of Incorporation (incorporated by reference from the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarter ended October 31, 1996) and Articles of Amendment thereto (incorporated by reference from the Current Report on Form 8-K filed April 16, 2010, as amended by the Current Report on Form 8-K/A filed April 19, 2010, and the Current Report on Form 8-K filed May 20, 2011). |
| 3.2(a) | Second Amended and Restated By-laws (incorporated by reference from the Current Report on Form 8-K filed June 16, 2009) and Amendments thereto (incorporated by reference from the Current Reports on Form 8-K filed May 20, 2011, and August 2, 2011, and the Current Report on Form 8-K filed on June 22, 2012). |
| 4.8 | Note Purchase Agreement dated as of September 29, 2006 among the Company and the purchasers of the $5.72 \%$ Senior Notes, Series A and Series B (incorporated by reference from the Current Report on Form 8-K filed September 29, 2006). |
| 4.9 | Note Purchase Agreement dated as of August 9, 2010 among the Company and the purchasers of the $5.22 \%$ Senior Notes (incorporated by reference from the Current Report on Form 8-K filed August 10, 2010). |
| 4.10 | Note Purchase Agreement dated as of June 17, 2013 among the Company and the purchasers of the $3.67 \%$ Senior A Notes and $3.75 \%$ Series B Notes (incorporated by reference from the Current Reports on Form 8-K filed June 18, 2013 and December 18, 2013). |
| 21(a) | Subsidiaries of Casey's General Stores, Inc. (incorporated by reference from the Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended April 30, 2014). |
| 31.1 | Certification of Robert J. Myers under Section 302 of the Sarbanes Oxley Act of 2002 |
| 31.2 | Certification of William J. Walljasper under Section 302 of the Sarbanes Oxley Act of 2002 |
| 32.1 | Certificate of Robert J. Myers under Section 906 of Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 |
| 32.2 | Certificate of William J. Walljasper under Section 906 of Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 |
| 101.INS | XBRL Instance Document |
| 101.SCH | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document |
| 101.CAL | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document |
| 101.LAB | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document |
| 101.PRE | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document |
| 101. DEF | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document |

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## SIGNATURE

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.

CASEY'S GENERAL STORES, INC.
Date: March 9, 2015
By: /s/ William J. Walljasper
William J. Walljasper
Its: Senior Vice President and
Chief Financial Officer
(Authorized Officer and Principal
Financial and Accounting Officer)
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## EXHIBIT INDEX

The following exhibits are filed herewith:
Exhibit No. Description
$31.1 \quad$ Certification of Robert J. Myers under Section 302 of the Sarbanes Oxley Act of 2002
31.2 Certification of William J. Walljasper under Section 302 of the Sarbanes Oxley Act of 2002
$32.1 \quad$ Certificate of Robert J. Myers under Section 906 of Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
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