

MONARCH CASINO & RESORT INC
Form 10-Q
May 12, 2008

United States
Securities and Exchange Commission
Washington, D.C. 20549

Form 10-Q

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

For the quarterly period ended March 31, 2008

OR

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

For the transition period from _____ to _____.

Commission File No. 0-22088

MONARCH CASINO & RESORT, INC.
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Nevada
(State or Other Jurisdiction of
Incorporation or Organization)

88-0300760
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

3800 S. Virginia St.
Reno, Nevada
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

89502
(ZIP Code)

(Former Name, Former Address and Former Fiscal Year, if Changed Since Last Report)

(775) 335-4600

Registrant's telephone number, including area code:

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days.

Yes T No £

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

Large Accelerated Filer Accelerated Filer
Non-Accelerated Filer Smaller Reporting Company

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

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the issuer's classes of common stock, as of the latest practicable date.

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Common stock, \$0.01 par value | 17,714,097 shares |
| Class | Outstanding at May 5, 2008 |

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PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

ITEM 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Monarch Casino & Resort, Inc.
Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income
(Unaudited)

| | Three Months Ended March 31, | |
|---|---------------------------------|---------------|
| | 2008 | 2007 |
| Revenues | | |
| Casino | \$ 23,755,950 | \$ 25,298,272 |
| Food and beverage | 9,761,220 | 10,504,215 |
| Hotel | 5,830,695 | 6,827,967 |
| Other | 1,232,069 | 1,188,623 |
| Gross revenues | 40,579,934 | 43,819,077 |
| Less promotional allowances | (6,306,541) | (6,037,486) |
| Net revenues | 34,273,393 | 37,781,591 |
| Operating expenses | | |
| Casino | 8,746,500 | 8,469,337 |
| Food and beverage | 4,689,365 | 4,968,717 |
| Hotel | 2,105,373 | 2,143,340 |
| Other | 346,654 | 363,620 |
| Selling, general and administrative | 13,104,100 | 11,530,803 |
| Depreciation and amortization | 2,006,557 | 2,075,446 |
| Total operating expenses | 30,998,549 | 29,551,263 |
| Income from operations | 3,274,844 | 8,230,328 |
| Other income (expense) | | |
| Interest income | 251,344 | 343,884 |
| Interest expense | (4,157) | (149,100) |
| Total other income | 247,187 | 194,784 |
| Income before income taxes | 3,522,031 | 8,425,112 |
| Provision for income taxes | (1,220,000) | (2,930,000) |
| Net income | \$ 2,302,031 | \$ 5,495,112 |
| Earnings per share of common stock | | |
| Net income | | |
| Basic | \$ 0.13 | \$ 0.29 |
| Diluted | \$ 0.12 | \$ 0.28 |
| Weighted average number of common shares and potential common shares outstanding | | |
| Basic | 18,415,836 | 19,070,472 |
| Diluted | 18,545,964 | 19,323,646 |

The Notes to the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements are an integral part of these statements.

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Monarch Casino & Resort, Inc.
Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets

| | March 31, 2008 (Unaudited) | December 31, 2007 |
|---|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| ASSETS | | |
| Current assets | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$ 15,738,077 | \$ 38,835,820 |
| Receivables, net | 3,487,954 | 4,134,099 |
| Federal income tax refund receivable | 280,000 | 998,123 |
| Inventories | 1,411,596 | 1,496,046 |
| Prepaid expenses | 3,054,637 | 3,144,374 |
| Deferred income taxes | 582,407 | 1,084,284 |
| Total current assets | 24,554,671 | 49,692,746 |
| Property and equipment | | |
| Land | 12,162,522 | 10,339,530 |
| Land improvements | 3,511,484 | 3,166,107 |
| Buildings | 80,655,538 | 78,955,538 |
| Building improvements | 10,435,062 | 10,435,062 |
| Furniture and equipment | 72,895,692 | 72,511,165 |
| Leasehold improvements | 1,346,965 | 1,346,965 |
| | 181,007,263 | 176,754,367 |
| Less accumulated depreciation and amortization | (94,139,876) | (92,215,149) |
| | 86,867,387 | 84,539,218 |
| Construction in progress | 31,997,407 | 17,236,062 |
| Net property and equipment | 118,864,794 | 101,775,280 |
| Other assets, net | 2,817,842 | 2,817,842 |
| Total assets | \$ 146,237,307 | \$ 154,285,868 |
| LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY | | |
| Current liabilities | | |
| Accounts payable | \$ 9,617,595 | \$ 10,840,318 |
| Construction payable | 3,955,053 | 1,971,022 |
| Accrued expenses | 9,460,340 | 9,230,157 |
| Total current liabilities | 23,032,988 | 22,041,497 |
| Deferred income taxes | 2,825,433 | 2,825,433 |
| Total liabilities | 25,858,421 | 24,866,930 |
| Commitments and contingencies | | |
| Stockholders' equity | | |
| Preferred stock, \$.01 par value, 10,000,000 shares authorized; none issued | - | - |
| Common stock, \$.01 par value, 30,000,000 shares authorized; 19,096,300 shares issued; 17,871,144 outstanding at 3/31/08 18,566,540 OUTSTANDING AT 12/31/07 | 190,963 | 190,963 |
| Additional paid-in capital | 26,307,043 | 25,741,972 |
| TREASURY STOCK, 1,225,156 SHARES AT 3/31/08 529,760 shares at 12/31/07, at cost | (25,176,059) | (13,268,905) |
| Retained earnings | 119,056,939 | 116,754,908 |
| Total stockholders' equity | 120,378,886 | 129,418,938 |
| Total liabilities and stockholder's equity | \$ 146,237,307 | \$ 154,285,868 |

The Notes to the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements are an integral part of these statements.

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Monarch Casino & Resort, Inc.
Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows
(Unaudited)

| | Three Months Ended March 31, | |
|---|---------------------------------|---------------|
| | 2008 | 2007 |
| Cash flows from operating activities: | | |
| Net income | \$ 2,302,031 | \$ 5,495,112 |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities: | | |
| Depreciation and amortization | 2,006,557 | 2,075,446 |
| Amortization of deferred loan costs | - | 148,838 |
| Share based compensation | 565,071 | 499,884 |
| Provision for bad debts | 436,419 | (83,662) |
| Gain on disposal of assets | (8,000) | (470) |
| Deferred income taxes | 501,877 | (375,959) |
| Changes in operating assets and liabilities: | | |
| Receivables, net | 927,849 | 170,591 |
| Inventories | 84,451 | 62,136 |
| Prepaid expenses | 89,737 | (184,026) |
| Other assets | - | (7,239) |
| Accounts payable | (1,222,723) | (539,514) |
| Accrued expenses | 230,183 | (1,315,889) |
| Federal income taxes payable | - | 3,170,594 |
| Net cash provided by operating activities | 5,913,452 | 9,115,842 |
| Cash flows from investing activities: | | |
| Proceeds from sale of assets | 8,000 | 470 |
| Acquisition of property and equipment | (19,096,073) | (2,228,274) |
| Change in construction payable | 1,984,031 | - |
| Net cash used in investing activities | (17,104,042) | (2,227,804) |
| Cash flows from financing activities: | | |
| Proceeds from exercise of stock options | - | 230,738 |
| Tax benefit of stock option exercise | - | 87,442 |
| Purchase of treasury stock | (11,907,153) | - |
| Net cash (used in) provided by financing activities | (11,907,153) | 318,180 |
| Net (decrease) increase in cash | (23,097,743) | 7,206,218 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period | 38,835,820 | 36,985,187 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at end of period | \$ 15,738,077 | \$ 44,191,405 |
| Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information: | | |
| Cash paid for interest | \$ 4,157 | \$ 263 |
| Cash paid for income taxes | \$ - | \$ 47,923 |

The Notes to the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements are an integral part of these statements.

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MONARCH CASINO & RESORT, INC.
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Presentation:

Monarch Casino & Resort, Inc. ("Monarch"), a Nevada corporation, was incorporated in 1993. Monarch's wholly-owned subsidiary, Golden Road Motor Inn, Inc. ("Golden Road"), operates the Atlantis Casino Resort (the "Atlantis"), a hotel/casino facility in Reno, Nevada. Unless stated otherwise, the "Company" refers collectively to Monarch and its Golden Road subsidiary.

The condensed consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Monarch and Golden Road. Intercompany balances and transactions are eliminated.

Interim Financial Statements:

The accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles for interim financial information and with the instructions to Form 10-Q and Article 10 of Regulation S-X. Accordingly, they do not include all of the information and footnotes required by generally accepted accounting principles for complete financial statements. In the opinion of management of the Company, all adjustments considered necessary for a fair presentation are included. Operating results for the three months ended March 31, 2008 are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for the year ending December 31, 2008.

The balance sheet at December 31, 2007 has been derived from the audited financial statements at that date but does not include all of the information and footnotes required by U.S. generally accepted accounting principles for complete financial statements. For further information, refer to the consolidated financial statements and footnotes thereto included in the Company's annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2007.

Use of Estimates:

In preparing these financial statements in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles, management is required to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and revenues and expenses during the respective periods. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Self-insurance Reserves:

The Company reviews self-insurance reserves at least quarterly. The amount of reserve is determined by reviewing the actual expenditures for the previous twelve-month period and reviewing reports prepared by third party plan administrators for any significant unpaid claims. The reserve is accrued at an amount needed to pay both reported and unreported claims as of the balance sheet dates, which management believes are adequate.

Inventories:

Inventories, consisting primarily of food, beverages, and retail merchandise, are stated at the lower of cost or market. Cost is determined on a first-in, first-out basis.

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Property and Equipment:

Property and equipment are stated at cost, less accumulated depreciation and amortization. Since inception, property and equipment have been depreciated principally on a straight line basis over the estimated service lives as follows:

| | |
|------------------------|-------------|
| Land improvements: | 15-40 years |
| Buildings: | 30-40 years |
| Building improvements: | 15-40 years |
| Furniture: | 5-10 years |
| Equipment: | 5-20 years |

In accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards ("SFAS") No. 144, "Accounting for the Impairment and Disposal of Long-Lived Assets," the Company evaluates the carrying value of its long-lived assets for impairment at least annually or whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value of the assets may not be recoverable from related future undiscounted cash flows. Indicators which could trigger an impairment review include legal and regulatory factors, market conditions and operational performance. Any resulting impairment loss, measured as the difference between the carrying amount and the fair value of the assets, could have a material adverse impact on the Company's financial condition and results of operations.

For assets to be disposed of, the Company recognizes the asset to be sold at the lower of carrying value or fair market value less costs of disposal. Fair market value for assets to be disposed of is generally estimated based on comparable asset sales, solicited offers or a discounted cash flow model.

Casino Revenues:

Casino revenues represent the net win from gaming activity, which is the difference between wins and losses. Additionally, net win is reduced by a provision for anticipated payouts on slot participation fees, progressive jackpots and any pre-arranged marker discounts.

Promotional Allowances:

The Company's frequent player program, Club Paradise, allows members, through the frequency of their play at the casino, to earn and accumulate point values, which may be redeemed for a variety of goods and services at the Atlantis Casino Resort. Point values may be applied toward room stays at the hotel, food and beverage consumption at any of the food outlets, gift shop items as well as goods and services at the spa and beauty salon. Point values earned may also be applied toward off-property events such as concerts, shows and sporting events. Point values may not be redeemed for cash.

Awards under the Company's frequent player program are recognized as promotional expenses at the time of redemption.

The retail value of hotel, food and beverage services provided to customers without charge is included in gross revenue and deducted as promotional allowances. The cost associated with complimentary food, beverage, rooms and merchandise redeemed under the program is recorded in casino costs and expenses.

Income Taxes:

Income taxes are recorded in accordance with the liability method specified by SFAS No. 109, "Accounting for Income Taxes." Under the asset and liability approach for financial accounting and reporting for income taxes, the following basic principles are applied in accounting for income taxes at the date of the financial statements: (a) a current liability or asset is recognized for the estimated taxes payable or refundable on taxes for the current year; (b) a deferred income tax liability or asset is recognized for the estimated future tax effects attributable to temporary differences and carryforwards; (c) the measurement of current and deferred tax liabilities and assets is based on the provisions of the enacted tax law; the effects of future changes in tax laws or rates are not anticipated; and (d) the measurement of deferred income taxes is reduced, if necessary, by the amount of any tax benefits that, based upon available evidence, are not expected to be realized.

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The Company also applies the requirements of FIN 48 which prescribes minimum recognition thresholds a tax position is required to meet before being recognized in the financial statements. FIN 48 also provides guidance on derecognition, measurement, classification, interest and penalties, accounting in interim periods, disclosure and transition. Implementation has resulted in no material impact on the Company's financial position or results of operations.

Allowance for Doubtful Accounts:

The Company extends short-term credit to its gaming customers. Such credit is non-interest bearing and due on demand. In addition, the Company also has receivables due from hotel guests, which are secured primarily with a credit card at the time a customer checks in. An allowance for doubtful accounts is set up for all Company receivables based upon the Company's historical collection and write-off experience, unless situations warrant a specific identification of a necessary reserve related to certain receivables. The Company charges off its uncollectible receivables once all efforts have been made to collect such receivables. The book value of receivables approximates fair value due to the short-term nature of the receivables.

Stock Based Compensation:

On January 1, 2006, the Company adopted the provisions of SFAS 123R requiring the measurement and recognition of all share-based compensation under the fair value method. The Company implemented SFAS 123R using the modified prospective transition method.

Concentrations of Credit Risk:

Financial instruments which potentially subject the Company to concentrations of credit risk consist principally of bank deposits and trade receivables. The Company maintains its cash in bank deposit accounts, which, at times, may exceed federally insured limits. The Company has not experienced any losses in such accounts. Concentrations of credit risk with respect to trade receivables are limited due to the large number of customers comprising the Company's customer base. The Company believes it is not exposed to any significant credit risk on cash and accounts receivable.

Certain Risks and Uncertainties:

A significant portion of the Company's revenues and operating income are generated from patrons who are residents of northern California. A change in general economic conditions or the extent and nature of casino gaming in California, Washington or Oregon could adversely affect the Company's operating results. On September 10, 1999, California lawmakers approved a constitutional amendment that gave Indian tribes the right to offer slot machines and a range of house-banked card games. On March 7, 2000, California voters approved the constitutional amendment. Several Native American casinos have opened in Northern California since passage of the constitutional amendment. A large Native American casino facility opened in the Sacramento area, one of the Company's primary feeder markets, in June of 2003. Other new Native American casinos are under construction in the northern California market, as well as other markets the Company currently serves, that could have an impact on the Company's financial position and results of operations. In June 2004, five California Indian tribes signed compacts with the state that allow the tribes to increase the number of slot machines beyond the previous 2,000-per-tribe limit in exchange for higher fees from each of the five tribes. In February 2008, the voters of the State of California approved compacts with four tribes located in Southern California that increase the limit of Native American operated slot machines in the State of California.

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In addition, the Company relies on non-conventioner visitors partially comprised of individuals flying into the Reno area. The threat of terrorist attacks could have an adverse effect on the Company's revenues from this segment. The terrorist attacks that took place in the United States on September 11, 2001, were unprecedented events that created economic and business uncertainties, especially for the travel and tourism industry. The potential for future terrorist attacks, the national and international responses, and other acts of war or hostility including the ongoing situation in Iraq, have created economic and political uncertainties that could materially adversely affect our business, results of operations, and financial condition in ways we cannot predict.

A change in regulations on land use requirements with regard to development of new hotel casinos in the proximity of the Atlantis could have an adverse impact on our business, results of operations, and financial condition.

The Company also markets to Reno-area residents. A major casino-hotel operator that successfully focuses on local resident business in Las Vegas announced plans to develop hotel-casino properties in Reno. The competition for this market segment is likely to increase and could impact the Company's business.

NOTE 2. STOCK-BASED COMPENSATION

The Company's three stock option plans, consisting of the Directors' Stock Option Plan, the Executive Long-term Incentive Plan, and the Employee Stock Option Plan (the "Plans"), collectively provide for the granting of options to purchase up to 3,250,000 common shares. The exercise price of stock options granted under the Plans is established by the respective plan committees, but the exercise price may not be less than the market price of the Company's common stock on the date the option is granted. The Company's stock options typically vest on a graded schedule, typically in equal, one-third increments, although the respective stock option committees have the discretion to impose different vesting periods or modify existing vesting periods. Options expire ten years from the grant date. By their amended terms, the Plans will expire in June 2013 after which no options may be granted.

A summary of the current year stock option activity as of and for the three months ended March 31, 2008 is presented below:

| Options | Shares | Exercise Price | Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Term | Aggregate Intrinsic Value |
|------------------------------------|-----------|----------------|---|---------------------------|
| Outstanding at beginning of period | 1,295,426 | \$ 19.04 | - | - |
| Granted | 49,991 | 19.15 | - | - |
| Exercised | - | - | - | - |
| Forfeited | (10,000) | 25.12 | - | - |
| Expired | - | - | - | - |
| Outstanding at end of period | 1,335,417 | \$ 18.99 | 7.7 yrs. | \$(1,698,010) |
| Exercisable at end of period | 536,077 | \$ 12.76 | 6.4 yrs. | \$ 2,391,189 |

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A summary of the status of the Company's nonvested shares as of March 31, 2008, and for the three months ended March 31, 2008, is presented below:

| Nonvested Shares | Shares | Weighted-Average Grant Date Fair Value |
|------------------------------|----------|--|
| Nonvested at January 1, 2008 | 782,676 | \$ 10.43 |
| Granted | 49,991 | 7.35 |
| Vested | (23,327) | 6.77 |
| Forfeited | (10,000) | 9.61 |
| Nonvested at March 31, 2008 | 799,340 | \$ 10.31 |

Expense Measurement and Recognition:

On January 1, 2006, the Company adopted the provisions of SFAS 123R requiring the measurement and recognition of all share-based compensation under the fair value method. The Company implemented SFAS 123R using the modified prospective transition method. Accordingly, for the three months ended March 31, 2008 and 2007, the Company recognized share-based compensation for all current award grants and for the unvested portion of previous award grants based on grant date fair values. Prior to fiscal 2006, the Company accounted for share-based awards under the disclosure-only provisions of SFAS No. 123, as amended by SFAS No. 148, but applied APB No. 25 and related interpretations in accounting for the Plans, which resulted in pro-forma compensation expense only for stock option awards. With the adoption of SFAS 123R, the Company changed its method of expense attribution for fair value share-based compensation from the straight-line approach to the accelerated approach for all awards granted. The Company anticipates the accelerated method will provide a more meaningful measure of costs incurred and be most representative of the economic reality associated with unvested stock options outstanding. Unrecognized costs related to all share-based awards outstanding at March 31, 2008 is approximately \$4.6 million and is expected to be recognized over a weighted average period of 1.39 years.

The Company uses historical data and projections to estimate expected employee, executive and director behaviors related to option exercises and forfeitures.

The Company estimates the fair value of each stock option award on the grant date using the Black-Scholes valuation model incorporating the assumptions noted in the following table. Option valuation models require the input of highly subjective assumptions, and changes in assumptions used can materially affect the fair value estimate. Option valuation assumptions for options granted during the first quarter of 2008 were as follows:

| | Three Months Ended March 31, | |
|---|------------------------------|------------|
| | 2008 | 2007 |
| Expected volatility | 52.7% | 36.9% |
| Expected dividends | - | - |
| Expected life (in years) | | |
| Directors' Plan | - | 2.5 |
| Executive Plan | - | 4.5 |
| Employee Plan | 3.7 | 3.0 |
| Weighted average risk free rate | 2.9% | 4.7% |
| Weighted average grant date fair value per share of options granted | \$ 7.35 | \$ 7.70 |
| Total intrinsic value of options exercised | - | \$ 257,991 |

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The risk-free interest rate is based on the U.S. treasury security rate in effect as of the date of grant. The expected lives of options are based on historical data of the Company. Upon implementation of SFAS 123R, the Company determined that an implied volatility is more reflective of market conditions and a better indicator of expected volatility.

Reported stock based compensation expense was classified as follows:

| | Three Months Ended March 31, | |
|--|---------------------------------|------------|
| | 2008 | 2007 |
| Casino | \$ 20,480 | \$ 14,689 |
| Food and beverage | 16,767 | 11,619 |
| Hotel | 10,597 | 8,906 |
| Selling, general and administrative | 517,227 | 464,670 |
| Total stock-based compensation, before taxes | 565,071 | 499,884 |
| Tax benefit | (197,775) | (174,959) |
| Total stock-based compensation, net of tax | \$ 367,296 | \$ 324,925 |

NOTE 3. EARNINGS PER SHARE

The Company reports "basic" earnings per share and "diluted" earnings per share in accordance with the provisions of SFAS No. 128, "Earnings Per Share." Basic earnings per share is computed by dividing reported net earnings by the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding during the period. Diluted earnings per share reflect the additional dilution for all potentially dilutive securities such as stock options. The following is a reconciliation of the number of shares (denominator) used in the basic and diluted earnings per share computations (shares in thousands):

| | Three Months Ended March 31, | | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|--------|---------------------|
| | 2008 | | 2007 | |
| | Shares | Per Share Amount | Shares | Per Share Amount |
| Basic | 18,416 | \$ 0.13 | 19,070 | \$ 0.29 |
| Effect of dilutive stock options | 130 | (0.01) | 254 | (0.01) |
| Diluted | 18,546 | \$ 0.12 | 19,324 | \$ 0.28 |

Excluded from the computation of diluted earnings per share are options where the exercise prices are greater than the market price as their effects would be anti-dilutive in the computation of diluted earnings per share.

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NOTE 4. RECENTLY ISSUED ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

In September 2006, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (the “FASB”) issued SFAS 157, Fair Value Measurements. SFAS 157 defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value in generally accepted accounting principles and expands disclosures about fair value measurements. This statement applies under other accounting pronouncements that require or permit fair value measurements, accordingly, this statement does not require any new fair value measurements. However, for some entities, the application of this statement will change current practice. This statement is effective for financial statements issued for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007, and interim periods within those fiscal years. In February 2008, the FASB issued FASB Staff Position (“FSP) FAS 157-2, which defers the effective date of SFAS 157 for nonfinancial assets and liabilities that are recognized or disclosed at fair value in the entity’s financial statements on a recurring basis to fiscal years beginning November 15, 2008, and interim periods within those fiscal years. We are evaluating SFAS 157 as it relates to nonfinancial assets and have not yet determined the impact the adoption will have on the consolidated financial statements. The adoption of SFAS No. 157 for financial assets did not have a material impact on the Company’s financial position, results of operations or cash flows

In February 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 159, “The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities Including an Amendment of FASB Statement No. 115.” SFAS No. 159 permits entities to choose to measure many financial instruments and certain other items at fair value, with unrealized gains and losses related to these financial instruments reported in earnings at each subsequent reporting date. SFAS No. 159 is effective for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007. The adoption of SFAS No. 159 did not have a material impact on the Company’s financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

In December 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 141 (revised 2007), “Business Combinations.” SFAS No. 141 (revised) establishes principles and requirements for how an acquirer recognizes and measures in its financial statements the identifiable assets acquired, the liabilities assumed, noncontrolling interest in the acquiree and the goodwill acquired. The revision is intended to simplify existing guidance and converge rulemaking under U.S. GAAP with international accounting rules. This statement applies prospectively to business combinations where the acquisition date is on or after the beginning of the first annual reporting period beginning on or after December 15, 2008. We will adopt FAS 141 (revised) in the first quarter of 2009. We cannot determine the impact FAS 141 (revised) will have on our financial position, results of operation or cash flows for future business combinations once adopted.

In December 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 160, “Noncontrolling Interest in Consolidated Financial Statements, an amendment of ARB No. 51.” This statement establishes accounting and reporting standards for ownership interest in subsidiaries held by parties other than the parent and for the deconsolidation of a subsidiary. It also clarifies that a noncontrolling interest in a subsidiary is an ownership interest in the consolidated entity that should be reported as equity in the consolidated financial statements. SFAS No. 160 changes the way the consolidated income statement is presented by requiring consolidated net income to be reported at amounts that include the amount attributable to both the parent and the noncontrolling interests. The statement also establishes reporting requirements that provide sufficient disclosure that clearly identify and distinguish between the interest of the parent and those of the noncontrolling owners. This statement is effective for fiscal years beginning on or after December 15, 2008. The adoption of SFAS No. 160 is not expected to have a material impact on the Company’s financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

In March 2008, the FASB issued SFAS 161, “Disclosures about Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities – an amendment of FASB Statement No. 133”. SFAS 161 changes the disclosure requirements for derivative instruments and hedging activities. Under SFAS 161, entities are required to provide enhanced disclosures about how and why they use derivative instruments, how derivative instruments and related hedged items are accounted for and the affect of derivative instruments on the entity’s financial position, financial performance and cash flows. SFAS 161 is

effective for financial statements issued for fiscal years and interim periods beginning after November 15, 2008. We will adopt SFAS 161 in the first quarter of 2009. The adoption of SFAS No. 161 is not expected to have a material impact on the Company's financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

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NOTE 5. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

On July 26, 2006, the Company submitted a formal offer to Biggest Little Investments, L.P. (“BLI”), formulated and delivered by a committee comprised of the Company’s independent directors (the “Committee”), to purchase the 18.95-acre shopping center (the “Shopping Center”) adjacent to the Atlantis Casino Resort Spa. On October 16, 2006, the Committee received a letter from counsel to BLI advising the Company that BLI, through its general partner, Maxum, L.L.C., had “decided that such offer is not in the best interest of the Partnership’s limited partners and, therefore, will not be entering into negotiations with Monarch.” While there have been subsequent communications between BLI and the Company from time to time regarding our interest in the Shopping Center, nothing has resulted. The Board of Directors continues to consider expansion alternatives.

Although there is currently a dispute as to how the units are held, collectively, John Farahi, Bob Farahi and Ben Farahi own a controlling interest in BLI. John Farahi is Co-Chairman of the Board, Chief Executive Officer, Chief Operating Officer and a Director of Monarch. Bob Farahi is Co-Chairman of the Board, President, Secretary and a Director of Monarch. Ben Farahi formerly was the Co-Chairman of the Board, Secretary, Treasurer, Chief Financial Officer and a Director of Monarch. Monarch’s board of directors accepted Ben Farahi’s resignation from these positions on May 23, 2006.

The Company currently rents various spaces in the Shopping Center which it uses as office, storage space and guest parking and paid rent of approximately \$100,700 and \$29,700 plus common area expenses in during the first three months of 2008 and 2007, respectively.

In addition, a driveway that is being shared between the Atlantis and the Shopping Center was completed on September 30, 2004. As part of this project, in January 2004, the Company leased a 37,368 square-foot corner section of the Shopping Center for a minimum lease term of 15 years at an annual rent of \$300,000, subject to increase every 60 months based on the Consumer Price Index. The Company began paying rent to the Shopping Center on September 30, 2004. The Company also uses part of the common area of the Shopping Center and pays its proportional share of the common area expense of the Shopping Center. The Company has the option to renew the lease for 3 five-year terms, and at the end of the extension periods, the Company has the option to purchase the leased driveway section of the Shopping Center at a price to be determined based on an MAI Appraisal. The leased space is being used by the Company for pedestrian and vehicle access to the Atlantis, and the Company may use a portion of the parking spaces at the Shopping Center. The total cost of the project was \$2.0 million; the Company was responsible for two thirds of the total cost, or \$1.35 million. The Company paid approximately \$75,000 plus common area charges for each of the three months ended March 31, 2008 and 2007 for its leased driveway space at the Shopping Center.

The Company is currently leasing sign space from the Shopping Center. The lease took effect in March 2005 for a monthly cost of \$1. The lease was renewed for another year with a monthly lease of \$1,000 effective January 1, 2006. The Company paid \$3,200 and \$3,000 for the three months ended March 31, 2008 and 2007, respectively, for the leased sign space.

The Company is currently leasing billboard advertising space from affiliates of its controlling stockholders and paid nothing for the three months ended March 31, 2008, and did not pay anything for the three months ended March 31, 2007.

On December 24, 2007, the Company entered into a lease with Triple “J” Plus, LLC (“Triple J”) for the use of a facility on 2.3 acres of land (jointly the “Property”) across Virginia Street from the Atlantis that the Company plans to utilize for administrative staff offices. The managing partner of Triple J is a first-cousin of John and Bob Farahi, the Company’s Chief Executive Officer and President, respectively. The term of the lease is two years requiring monthly rental payments of \$20,256. Commensurate with execution of the lease, the Company entered into an agreement that

provides the Company with a purchase option on the Property at the expiration of the lease period while also providing Triple J with a put option to cause the Company to purchase the Property during the lease period. The purchase price of the Property has been established by a third party appraisal company. Lastly, as a condition of the lease and purchase option, the Company entered into a promissory note (the "Note") with Triple J whereby the Company advanced a \$2.7 million loan to Triple J. The Note requires interest only payments at 5.25% and matures on the earlier of i) the date the Company acquires the Property or ii) January 1, 2010.

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NOTE 6. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

In September 2006, the FASB issued statement No. 157, "Fair Value Measurements" (SFAS 157). SFAS 157 defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States, and expands disclosures about fair value measurements. The Company has adopted the provisions of SFAS 157 as of January 1, 2008, for financial instruments. Although the adoption of SFAS 157 did not materially impact its financial condition, results of operations, or cash flow, the Company is now required to provide additional disclosures as part of its financial statements.

SFAS 157 establishes a three-tier fair value hierarchy, which prioritizes the inputs used in measuring fair value. These tiers include: Level 1, defined as observable inputs such as quoted prices in active markets; Level 2, defined as inputs other than quoted prices in active markets that are either directly or indirectly observable; and Level 3, defined as unobservable inputs in which little or no market data exists, therefore requiring an entity to develop its own assumptions. As of March 31, 2008, the Company had no assets that are required to be measured at fair value on a recurring basis.

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

Monarch Casino & Resort, Inc., through its wholly-owned subsidiary, Golden Road Motor Inn, Inc. ("Golden Road"), owns and operates the tropically-themed Atlantis Casino Resort, a hotel/casino facility in Reno, Nevada (the "Atlantis"). Monarch was incorporated in 1993 under Nevada law for the purpose of acquiring all of the stock of Golden Road. The principal asset of Monarch is the stock of Golden Road, which holds all of the assets of the Atlantis.

Our sole operating asset, the Atlantis, is a hotel/casino resort located in Reno, Nevada. Our business strategy is to maximize the Atlantis' revenues, operating income and cash flow primarily through our casino, our food and beverage operations and our hotel operations. We derive our revenues by appealing to tourists, conventioners and middle to upper-middle income northern Nevada residents, emphasizing slot machine play in our casino. We capitalize on the Atlantis' location for northern Nevada residents, tour and travel visitors and conventioners by offering exceptional service, value and an appealing theme to our guests. Our hands-on management style focuses on customer service and cost efficiencies.

Unless otherwise indicated, "Monarch," "Company," "we," "our" and "us" refer to Monarch Casino & Resort, Inc. and its Golden Road subsidiary.

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OPERATING RESULTS SUMMARY

Below is a summary of our first quarter results for 2008 and 2007:

Amounts in millions, except per share amounts

| | Three Months Ended March 31, | | Percentage Increase/(Decrease) 08 vs 07 |
|--|---------------------------------|---------|---|
| | 2008 | 2007 | |
| Casino revenues | \$ 23.8 | \$ 25.3 | (5.9) |
| Food and beverage revenues | 9.8 | 10.5 | (6.7) |
| Hotel revenues | 5.8 | 6.8 | (14.7) |
| Other revenues | 1.2 | 1.2 | - |
| Net revenues | 34.3 | 37.8 | (9.3) |
| Sales, general and administrative expense | 13.1 | 11.5 | 13.9 |
| Income from operations | 3.3 | 8.2 | (59.8) |
| Net Income | 2.3 | 5.5 | (58.2) |
| Earnings per share - diluted | 0.12 | 0.28 | (57.1) |
| Operating margin | 9.6% | 21.8% | 12.2 points |

Our results for the three months ended March 31, 2008 reflect the effects of the challenging operating environment that we also experienced in the three month period ended December 31, 2007. As in many other areas around the country, the economic slowdown in Reno in the fourth quarter of 2007 accelerated in the first quarter of 2008. Other factors causing negative financial impact that continued from the fourth quarter were disruption from construction related to our on-going \$50 million expansion project (see "COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES" below) and aggressive marketing programs by our competitors. Consistent with the fourth quarter of 2007, we increased marketing and promotional expenditures to attract and retain guests in response to these challenges and we incurred greater bad debt expense. We also had higher legal expenses associated with the ongoing and previously disclosed Kerzner litigation (see "LEGAL PROCEEDINGS" below). We anticipate that downward pressure on profits will persist as long as we continue to experience the adverse effects of the negative macroeconomic environment, construction disruption, the aggressive marketing programs of our competitors and the legal defense costs associated with the Kerzner lawsuit.

These factors were the primary drivers of:

- Decreases of 5.9%, 6.7% and 14.7% in our casino, food and beverage and hotel revenues, respectively, resulting in a net revenue decrease of 9.3%.
 - An increase in sales, general and administrative expense by 13.9%
 - A decrease in our operating margin by 12.2 points or 56%.

CAPITAL SPENDING AND DEVELOPMENT

Capital expenditures at the Atlantis totaled approximately \$19.1 and \$2.2 million during the first three months of 2008 and 2007, respectively. During the three months ended March 31, 2008, our capital expenditures consisted primarily of construction costs associated with our ongoing \$50 million expansion project and the Atlantis Convention Center Skybridge project (see additional discussion of these projects under “COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES” below). Additional capital expenditures during the quarter ended March 31, 2008 were for acquisition of land to be used for administrative offices, acquisition of gaming equipment to upgrade and replace existing equipment and continued renovation and upgrades to the Atlantis facility. During the first three months of 2007, capital expenditures consisted primarily of acquisitions of gaming equipment and the preliminary engineering and design costs associated with the current expansion phase of the Atlantis.

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Future cash needed to finance ongoing maintenance capital spending is expected to be made available from our current cash balance, operating cash flow, the Credit Facility (see "THE CREDIT FACILITY" below) and, if necessary, additional borrowings.

STATEMENT ON FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION

When used in this report and elsewhere by management from time to time, the words "believes", "anticipates" and "expects" and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements with respect to our financial condition, results of operations and our business including our expansion, development activities, legal proceedings and employee matters. Certain important factors, including but not limited to, competition from other gaming operations, factors affecting our ability to compete, acquisitions of gaming properties, leverage, construction risks, the inherent uncertainty and costs associated with litigation and governmental and regulatory investigations, and licensing and other regulatory risks, could cause our actual results to differ materially from those expressed in our forward-looking statements. Further information on potential factors which could affect our financial condition, results of operations and business including, without limitation, our expansion, development activities, legal proceedings and employee matters are included in our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on any forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date thereof. We undertake no obligation to publicly release any revisions to such forward-looking statement to reflect events or circumstances after the date hereof.

RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Comparison of Operating Results for the Three-Month Periods Ended March 31, 2008 and 2007

For the three months ended March 31, 2008, our net income was \$2.3 million, or \$0.12 per diluted share, on net revenues of \$34.3 million, a decrease from net income of \$5.5 million, or \$0.28 per diluted share, on net revenues of \$37.8 million for the three months ended March 31, 2007. Income from operations for the three months ended March 31, 2008 totaled \$3.3 million, a 59.8% decrease when compared to \$8.2 million for the same period in 2007. Net revenues and net income decreased 9.3% and 58.2%, respectively, when compared to last year's first quarter.

Casino revenues totaled \$23.8 million in the first quarter of 2008, a 5.9% decrease from \$25.3 million in the first quarter of 2007, which was primarily due to decreased slot revenues. Casino operating expenses amounted to 36.8% of casino revenues in the first quarter of 2008, compared to 33.5% in the first quarter of 2007; the increase was due primarily due to the decreased casino revenue.

Food and beverage revenues totaled \$9.8 million in the first quarter of 2008, a 6.7% decrease from \$10.5 million in the first quarter of 2007, due primarily to a 6.2% increase in the average revenue per food cover partially offset by a 11.5% decrease in the number of covers served. Food and beverage operating expenses amounted to 48.0% of food and beverage revenues during the first quarter of 2008 as compared to 47.3% for the first quarter of 2007. This increase was primarily the result of the lower revenue combined with increased food commodity costs.

Hotel revenues were \$5.8 million for the first quarter of 2008, a decrease of 14.7% from the \$6.8 million reported in the 2007 first quarter. This decrease was the result of lower hotel occupancy and a decrease in the average daily room rate ("ADR"). Both 2008 and 2007 first quarter revenues included a \$3 per occupied room energy surcharge. During the first quarter of 2008, the Atlantis experienced an 85.7% occupancy rate, as compared to 95.5% during the same period in 2007. The Atlantis' ADR was \$68.55 in the first quarter of 2008 compared to \$71.89 in the first quarter of 2007. Hotel operating expenses as a percent of hotel revenues increased to 36.1% for the first quarter of 2008 from 31.4% for the first quarter of 2007 primarily due to the decreased revenue.

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Promotional allowances increased to \$6.3 million in the first quarter of 2008 compared to \$6.0 million in the first quarter of 2007. The increase is attributable to continued promotional efforts to generate additional revenues. Promotional allowances as a percentage of gross revenues increased to 15.5% during the first quarter of 2008 as compared to 13.8% in the first quarter of 2007.

Other revenues remained flat at \$1.2 million in the 2008 first quarter as compared to the first quarter of 2007.

Depreciation and amortization expense was \$2.0 million in the first quarter of 2008 as compared to \$2.1 million in the first quarter of 2007. This depreciation expense primarily relates to property and equipment acquired in the ordinary course of business as part of the Company's ongoing capital expenditures to replace old and obsolete equipment with newer, more current equipment.

SG&A expenses amounted to \$13.1 million in the first quarter of 2008, a 13.9% increase from \$11.5 million in the first quarter of 2007. The increase was primarily due to increased bad debt expense, higher marketing and promotional expense and higher legal expense related to the Kerzner lawsuit (see "LEGAL PROCEEDINGS" discussion below). As a percentage of net revenue, SG&A expenses increased to 38.2% in the first quarter of 2008 from 30.5% in the same period in 2007.

Net interest income increased to \$247,000 for the first quarter of 2008 from \$195,000 for the first quarter of 2007. This increase was driven by a decrease in interest income which was more than offset by a decrease in interest expense. The decrease in interest income was the result of a lower average balance of interest bearing cash and cash equivalents during the first quarter of 2008 as compared to the same quarter in 2007. The decrease in interest expense was the result of a charge for deferred loan costs in the first quarter of 2007 that did not recur in 2008.

LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

For the three months ended March 31, 2008, net cash provided by operating activities totaled \$5.9 million, a decrease of 35.2% compared to the same period last year. Net cash used in investing activities totaled \$17.1 million and \$2.2 million in the three months ended March 31, 2008 and 2007, respectively. During the first three months of 2008, net cash used in investing activities consisted primarily of construction costs associated with the current expansion phase of the Atlantis that commenced in June 2007, and the acquisition of property and equipment. During the first three months of 2007, net cash used in investing activities was used primarily in the purchase of property and equipment and continued property renovations and upgrades. Net cash used in financing activities totaled \$11.9 million for the first three months of 2008 compared to net cash provided by financing activities of \$318,180 for the same period in 2007. Net cash used in financing activities for the first three months of 2008 was due to our purchase of Monarch common stock pursuant to the Repurchase Plan (see "COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES" below). During the first three months of 2007, we received approximately \$318,180 in cash from the proceeds of stock option exercises and the related tax benefits. At March 31, 2008, we had a cash and cash equivalents balance of \$15.7 million compared to \$38.8 million at December 31, 2007.

We have historically funded our daily hotel and casino activities with net cash provided by operating activities. However, to provide the flexibility to execute the share Repurchase Plan (see Commitments and Contingencies section below) should we decide to do so, and to provide for other capital needs should they arise, we entered into an agreement to amend our Credit Facility (see "THE CREDIT FACILITY" below) on April 14, 2008. The amendment increased the available borrowings under the facility from \$5 million to \$50 million and extended the maturity date from February 23, 2009 to April 18, 2009. At March 31, 2008, we had no balance outstanding on the Credit Facility and had \$50 million available to be drawn under the Credit Facility.

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OFF BALANCE SHEET ARRANGEMENTS

A driveway was completed and opened on September 30, 2004, that is being shared between the Atlantis and a shopping center (the "Shopping Center") directly adjacent to the Atlantis. The Shopping Center is controlled by an entity whose owners include our controlling stockholders. As part of this project, in January 2004, we leased a 37,368 square-foot corner section of the Shopping Center for a minimum lease term of 15 years at an annual rent of \$300,000, subject to increase every 60 months based on the Consumer Price Index. We also use part of the common area of the Shopping Center and pay our proportional share of the common area expense of the Shopping Center. We have the option to renew the lease for three five-year terms, and at the end of the extension periods, we have the option to purchase the leased section of the Shopping Center at a price to be determined based on an MAI Appraisal. The leased space is being used by us for pedestrian and vehicle access to the Atlantis, and we may use a portion of the parking spaces at the Shopping Center. The total cost of the project was \$2.0 million; we were responsible for two thirds of the total cost, or \$1.35 million. The cost of the new driveway is being depreciated over the initial 15-year lease term; some components of the new driveway are being depreciated over a shorter period of time. We paid approximately \$75,000 in lease payments for the leased driveway space at the Shopping Center during the three months ended March 31, 2008.

Critical Accounting Policies

A description of our critical accounting policies and estimates can be found in Item 7 – "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" of our Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2007 ("2007 Form 10-K"). For a more extensive discussion of our accounting policies, see Note 1, Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, in the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements in our 2007 Form 10-K filed on March 17, 2008.

OTHER FACTORS AFFECTING CURRENT AND FUTURE RESULTS

The economy in Reno and our feeder markets, like many other areas around the country, are experiencing the effects of several negative macroeconomic trends, including higher fuel prices, home mortgage defaults, higher mortgage interest rates and declining residential real estate values. These negative trends could adversely impact discretionary incomes of our target customers, which, in turn could adversely impact our business. Management continues to monitor these trends and intends, as appropriate, to adopt operating strategies to attempt to mitigate the effects of such adverse conditions. We can make no assurances that such strategies will be effective.

As discussed below in "COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES" we commenced construction on an expansion project to the Atlantis in the second quarter of 2007. The expected construction period of twelve months will continue into the second quarter of 2008 with the exception of the spa facilities, which we expect to open in the third quarter of 2008. During the construction period, there could be disruption to our operations from various construction activities. In addition, the construction activity may make it inconvenient for our patrons to access certain locations and amenities at the Atlantis which may in turn cause certain patrons to patronize other Reno area casinos rather than deal with construction-related inconveniences. As a result, our business and our results of operations may be adversely impacted so long as we are experiencing construction related operational disruption.

The constitutional amendment approved by California voters in 1999 allowing the expansion of Indian casinos in California has had an impact on casino revenues in Nevada in general, and many analysts have continued to predict the impact will be more significant on the Reno-Lake Tahoe market. If other Reno-area casinos continue to suffer business losses due to increased pressure from California Indian casinos, they may intensify their marketing efforts to Reno-area residents as well.

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We also believe that unlimited land-based casino gaming in or near any major metropolitan area in the Atlantis' key non-Reno marketing areas, such as San Francisco or Sacramento, could have a material adverse effect on our business.

In June 2004, five California Indian tribes signed compacts with the state that allow the tribes to increase the number of slot machines beyond the previous 2,000-per-tribe limit in exchange for higher fees from each of the five tribes. In February 2008, the voters of the State of California approved compacts with four tribes located in Southern California that increase the limit of Native American operated slot machines in the State of California.

Other factors that may impact current and future results are set forth in detail in Part II - Item 1A "Risk Factors" of this Form 10-Q and in Item 1A "Risk Factors" of our 2007 Form 10-K.

COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

Our contractual cash obligations as of March 31, 2008 and the next five years and thereafter are as follow:

| | Total | Payments Due by Period | | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------|------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| | | Less Than 1 Year | 1 to 3 Years | 4 to 5 Years | More Than 5 Years |
| Operating leases (1) | \$ 4,680,000 | \$ 613,000 | \$ 922,000 | \$ 740,000 | \$ 2,405,000 |
| Purchase obligations (2) | 39,072,000 | 39,072,000 | - | - | - |
| Total contractual cash obligations | \$ 43,752,000 | \$ 39,685,000 | \$ 922,000 | \$ 740,000 | \$ 2,405,000 |

(1) Operating leases include \$370,000 per year in lease and common area expense payments to the shopping center adjacent to the Atlantis and \$243,000 per year in lease payments to Triple J (see Note 5. Related Party Transactions, in the Notes to the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements in this Form 10-Q).

(2) Our open purchase order and construction commitments total approximately \$39.1 million. Of the total purchase order and construction commitments, approximately \$2.1 million are cancelable by us upon providing a 30-day notice.

On September 28, 2006, our Board of Directors (our "Board") authorized a stock repurchase plan (the "Repurchase Plan"). Under the Repurchase Plan, our Board authorized a program to repurchase up to 1,000,000 shares of our common stock in the open market or in privately negotiated transactions from time to time, in compliance with Rule 10b-18 of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, subject to market conditions, applicable legal requirements and other factors. The Repurchase Plan does not obligate us to acquire any particular amount of common stock and the plan may be suspended at any time at our discretion.

On March 11, 2008, our Board increased its initial authorization by 1 million shares and on April 22, 2008, the Board increased its authorization a third time by 1 million shares which increased the shares authorized to be repurchased to a total of three million shares. During the first quarter of 2008, we purchased 695,396 shares of the Company's common stock pursuant to the Repurchase Plan at a weighted average purchase price of \$17.12 per share, which increased the total number of shares purchased pursuant to the Repurchase Plan to 1,250,904 at a weighted average purchase price of \$20.61. As of March 31, 2008, 1,749,096 shares remain under the three million share Repurchase Plan authorization.

We began construction in the second quarter of 2007 on the next expansion phase of the Atlantis (the "Expansion"). New space to be added to the first floor casino level, the second and third floors and the basement level will total approximately 116,000 square feet. Once complete, the existing casino floor will be expanded by over 10,000 square feet, or approximately 20%. The first floor plans include a redesigned, updated and expanded race and sports book of approximately 4,000 square feet and an enlarged poker room. The plans also include a Manhattan deli

restaurant. The second floor expansion will create additional ballroom and convention space of approximately 27,000 square feet, doubling our existing facilities. The spa and fitness center will be remodeled and expanded to create an ultra-modern spa and fitness center facility. We expect to open the Expansion late in the second quarter of 2008 with the exception of the spa facilities which we expect to open in the third quarter of 2008. We have also begun construction of a pedestrian skywalk over Peckham Lane that will connect the Reno-Sparks Convention Center directly to the Atlantis. Construction of the skywalk is expected to be completed in the fourth quarter of 2008. The Expansion is estimated to cost approximately \$50 million, and the Atlantis Convention Center Skybridge project is estimated to cost an additional \$12.5 million. Through March 31, 2008, the Company has paid approximately \$32.0 million of the estimated Expansion and skybridge cost.

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We believe that our existing cash balances, cash flow from operations and borrowings available under the Credit Facility will provide us with sufficient resources to fund our operations, meet our debt obligations, and fulfill our capital expenditure requirements; however, our operations are subject to financial, economic, competitive, regulatory, and other factors, many of which are beyond our control. If we are unable to generate sufficient cash flow, we could be required to adopt one or more alternatives, such as reducing, delaying or eliminating planned capital expenditures, selling assets, restructuring debt or obtaining additional equity capital.

On March 27, 2008, in the matter captioned Sparks Nugget, Inc. vs. State ex rel. Department of Taxation, the Nevada Supreme Court ruled that complimentary meals provided to employees and patrons are not subject to Nevada use tax.

On April 15, 2008, the Department of Taxation filed a motion for rehearing of the Supreme Court's decision. The Nevada Supreme Court has yet to rule on that motion. In the event that the Nevada Supreme Court does not reverse its original decision, we believe that we would be entitled to a refund on previously paid use tax on complimentary employee and patron meals, as would other gaming companies with Nevada casinos. No assurances can be provided as to the outcome of the litigation. Accordingly, we have not recorded a receivable for a refund for previously paid use tax on complimentary employee and patron meals in the accompanying consolidated balance sheet at March 31, 2008.

THE CREDIT FACILITY

On February 20, 2004, a previous credit facility was refinanced (the "Credit Facility") for \$50 million. At our option, borrowings under the Credit Facility would accrue interest at a rate designated by the agent bank at its base rate (the "Base Rate") or at the London Interbank Offered Rate ("LIBOR") for one, two, three or six month periods. The rate of interest included a margin added to either the Base Rate or to LIBOR tied to our ratio of funded debt to EBITDA (the "Leverage Ratio"). Depending on our Leverage Ratio, this margin would vary between 0.25 percent and 1.25 percent above the Base Rate, and between 1.50 percent and 2.50 percent above LIBOR. In February 2007, this margin was further reduced to 0.00 percent and 0.75 percent above the Base Rate and between 1.00 percent and 1.75 percent above LIBOR. At March 31, 2008, we had no borrowings under the Credit Facility; however, our leverage ratio was such that the pricing for borrowings would have been the Base Rate plus 0.00 percent or LIBOR plus 1.00 percent. We paid various one-time fees and other loan costs upon the closing of the refinancing of the Credit Facility that will be amortized over the term of the Credit Facility using the straight-line method.

The Credit Facility is secured by liens on substantially all of the real and personal property of the Atlantis, and is guaranteed by Monarch.

The Credit Facility contains covenants customary and typical for a facility of this nature, including, but not limited to, covenants requiring the preservation and maintenance of our assets and covenants restricting our ability to merge, transfer ownership of Monarch, incur additional indebtedness, encumber assets and make certain investments. The Credit Facility also contains covenants requiring us to maintain certain financial ratios and contains provisions that restrict cash transfers between Monarch and its affiliates. The Credit Facility also contains provisions requiring the achievement of certain financial ratios before we can repurchase our common stock. We do not consider the covenants to restrict our operations.

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Beginning June 30, 2004, the maximum principal available under the Credit Facility was to be reduced over five years by an aggregate of \$30.875 million in equal increments of \$1.625 million per quarter with the remaining balance due at the maturity date. We may prepay borrowings under the Credit Facility without penalty (subject to certain charges applicable to the prepayment of LIBOR borrowings prior to the end of the applicable interest period). Amounts prepaid under the Credit Facility may be reborrowed so long as the total borrowings outstanding do not exceed the maximum principal available. Effective February 2007, in consideration of our cash balance, cash expected to be generated from operations and to avoid agency and commitment fees, we elected to reduce the available borrowings to \$5 million. We may reduce the maximum principal available under the Credit Facility at any time so long as the amount of such reduction is at least \$500,000 and a multiple of \$50,000.

On April 14, 2008, we entered into an agreement to amend the Credit Facility. The amendment increased the available borrowings under the facility from \$5 million to \$50 million and extended the maturity date from February 23, 2009 to April 18, 2009. At March 31, 2008, we had no balance outstanding on the Credit Facility and had \$50 million available to be drawn under the Credit Facility.

ITEM 3. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

Market risk is the risk of loss arising from adverse changes in market risks and prices, such as interest rates, foreign currency exchange rates and commodity prices. We do not have any cash or cash equivalents as of March 31, 2008, that are subject to market risks.

ITEM 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

As of the end of the period covered by this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, (the "Evaluation Date"), an evaluation was carried out by our management, with the participation of our Chief Executive Officer and our Chief Financial Officer, of the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined by Rule 13a-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934). Based upon the evaluation, our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of the end of the period covered by this report.

There was no change in our internal control over financial reporting during our most recently completed fiscal quarter that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

PART II – OTHER INFORMATION

ITEM 1. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

Litigation was filed against Monarch on January 27, 2006, by Kerzner International Limited ("Kerzner ") owner of the Atlantis, Paradise Island, Bahamas in the United States District Court, District of Nevada. The case number assigned to the matter is 3:06-cv-00232-ECR (RAM). The complaint seeks declaratory judgment prohibiting Monarch from using the name "Atlantis" in connection with offering casino services other than at Monarch's Atlantis Casino Resort Spa located in Reno, Nevada, and particularly prohibiting Monarch from using the "Atlantis" name in connection with offering casino services in Las Vegas, Nevada; injunctive relief enforcing the same; unspecified compensatory and punitive damages; and other relief. Monarch believes Kerzner's claims to be entirely without merit and is defending vigorously against the suit. Further, Monarch has filed a counterclaim against Kerzner seeking to enforce the license agreement granting Monarch the exclusive right to use the Atlantis name in association with lodging throughout the state of Nevada; to cancel Kerzner's registration of the Atlantis mark for casino services on the basis that the mark was

fraudulently obtained by Kerzner; and to obtain declaratory relief on these issues. Litigation is in the discovery phase.

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We are party to other claims that arise in the normal course of business. Management believes that the outcomes of such claims will not have a material adverse impact on our financial condition, cash flows or results of operations.

ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS

A description of our risk factors can be found in Item 1A of our Annual Report on Form 10-K, as amended, for the year ended December 31, 2007. There were no material changes to those risk factors during the three months ended March 31, 2008.

ITEM 2. UNREGISTERED SALE OF EQUITY SECURITIES AND USE OF PROCEEDS

(c) As discussed above in “COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES”, our Board authorized the Repurchase Plan under which we may repurchase up to three million shares of our common stock. As of March 31, 2008, 1,749,096 shares remain under the three million share Repurchase Plan authorization.

The following table summarizes the repurchases made during the three month period ended March 31, 2008. All repurchases were made in the open market.

| Period | (a) Total number of shares purchased (1) | (b) Average price paid per share | (c) Total number of shares purchased as part of publicly announced plans | (d) Maximum number of shares that may yet be purchased under the plans |
|--|---|--|--|--|
| January 1, 2008 through January 31, 2008 | - | - | - | - |
| February 1, 2008 through February 29, 2008 | 112,388 | \$ 16.95 | 112,388 | 332,104 |
| March 1, 2008 through March 31, 2008 | 583,008 | \$ 17.16 | 583,008 | 749,096 |

(1) All shares were purchased pursuant to the Repurchase Plan discussed above.

ITEM 6. EXHIBITS

(a) Exhibits

| Exhibit No | Description |
|------------|--|
| 10.1 | Second Amendment to Credit Agreement and Amendment to Revolving Credit Note, dated as of April 14, 2008, entered into by and among Golden road Motor Inn, Inc., Monarch Casino & Resort, Inc. and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association is incorporated herein by reference to the Company’s Form 8-K filed April 18, 2008, Exhibit 10.1. |
| 10.2 | Letter of Understanding Regarding Terms of Employment between the Company and Ronald Rowan dated May 22, 2006. |
| 31.1 | Certifications pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. |
| 31.2 | Certifications pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. |
| 32.1 | Certification of John Farahi, pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 |
| 32.2 | Certification of Ronald Rowan, 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.

MONARCH CASINO & RESORT, INC.
(Registrant)

Date: May 12, 2008

By: /s/ RONALD ROWAN
Ronald Rowan, Chief Financial Officer
and Treasurer (Principal Financial
Officer and Duly Authorized Officer)