

CHICOS FAS INC
Form 10-Q
September 01, 2016
Table of Contents

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

FORM 10-Q

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

For the Quarter Ended: Commission File Number:
July 30, 2016 001-16435

Chico's FAS, Inc.
(Exact name of registrant as specified in charter)

Florida 59-2389435
(State of Incorporation) (I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)
11215 Metro Parkway, Fort Myers, Florida 33966
(Address of principal executive offices)
239-277-6200
(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 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 (232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes No

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

Large accelerated filer Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer (do not check if a smaller reporting company) 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.

At August 15, 2016, the registrant had 132,033,005 shares of Common Stock, \$0.01 par value per share, outstanding.

Table of Contents

CHICO'S FAS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
TABLE OF CONTENTS

PART I – Financial Information

Item 1. Financial Statements:

Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income for the Thirteen Weeks and Twenty-Six Weeks Ended July 30, 2016 (Unaudited) and August 1, 2015 (Unaudited) 3

Condensed Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income for the Thirteen and Twenty-Six Weeks Ended July 30, 2016 (Unaudited) and August 1, 2015 (Unaudited) 4

Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets –July 30, 2016 (Unaudited), January 30, 2016 (Unaudited) and August 1, 2015 (Unaudited) 5

Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the Twenty-Six Weeks Ended July 30, 2016 (Unaudited) and August 1, 2015 (Unaudited) 6

Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Unaudited) 7

Item 2. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations 17

Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk 25

Item 4. Controls and Procedures 25

PART II – Other Information

Item 1. Legal Proceedings 26

Item 1A. Risk Factors 27

Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds 28

Item 6. Exhibits 29

Signatures 30

Table of Contents

PART I – FINANCIAL INFORMATION

ITEM 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

CHICO'S FAS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME

(Unaudited)

(In thousands, except per share amounts)

	Thirteen Weeks Ended				Twenty-Six Weeks Ended			
	July 30, 2016		August 1, 2015 (as adjusted)		July 30, 2016		August 1, 2015 (as adjusted)	
	Amount	% of Sales	Amount	% of Sales	Amount	% of Sales	Amount	% of Sales
Net sales	\$635,732	100.0	\$685,826	100.0	\$1,278,709	100.0	\$1,383,592	100.0
Cost of goods sold	394,922	62.1	421,125	61.4	775,564	60.7	823,273	59.5
Gross margin	240,810	37.9	264,701	38.6	503,145	39.3	560,319	40.5
Selling, general and administrative expenses	186,626	29.4	207,170	30.2	394,767	30.9	435,235	31.5
Goodwill and intangible impairment charges	—	0.0	66,941	9.8	—	0.0	66,941	4.8
Restructuring and strategic charges	16,556	2.6	16,166	2.3	20,207	1.5	31,041	2.2
Income (loss) from operations	37,628	5.9	(25,576)	(3.7)	88,171	6.9	27,102	2.0
Interest expense, net	(489)	(0.1)	(502)	(0.1)	(948)	(0.1)	(955)	(0.1)
Income (loss) before income taxes	37,139	5.8	(26,078)	(3.8)	87,223	6.8	26,147	1.9
Income tax provision (benefit)	14,100	2.2	(28,200)	(4.1)	33,100	2.6	(8,500)	(0.6)
Net income	\$23,039	3.6	\$2,122	0.3	\$54,123	4.2	\$34,647	2.5
Per share data:								
Net income per common share-basic	\$0.17		\$0.02		\$0.41		\$0.24	
Net income per common and common equivalent share–diluted	\$0.17		\$0.02		\$0.41		\$0.24	
Weighted average common shares outstanding–basic	129,215		138,606		130,406		140,992	
Weighted average common and common equivalent shares outstanding–diluted	129,362		138,961		130,516		141,339	
Dividends declared per share	\$0.0800		\$0.0775		\$0.2400		\$0.2325	

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

Table of Contents

CHICO'S FAS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
 CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
 (Unaudited)
 (In thousands)

	Thirteen Weeks Ended		Twenty-Six Weeks Ended	
	July 30, 2016	August 1, 2015	July 30, 2016	August 1, 2015
Net income	\$23,039	\$ 2,122	\$54,123	\$34,647
Other comprehensive income (loss):				
Unrealized gains (losses) on marketable securities, net of taxes	6	(6)	39	(18)
Foreign currency translation gains (losses), net of taxes	4	331	(27)	121
Comprehensive income	\$23,049	\$ 2,447	\$54,135	\$34,750

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

Table of Contents

CHICO'S FAS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
 CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS
 (Unaudited)
 (In thousands)

	July 30, 2016	January 30, 2016	August 1, 2015
ASSETS			
Current Assets:			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$100,532	\$89,951	\$109,015
Marketable securities, at fair value	50,612	50,194	47,999
Inventories	235,636	233,834	239,043
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	43,135	45,660	50,190
Income tax receivable	3,070	29,157	11,482
Assets held for sale	18,667	16,525	85,941
Total Current Assets	451,652	465,321	543,670
Property and Equipment, net	515,088	550,953	563,583
Other Assets:			
Goodwill	96,774	96,774	96,774
Other intangible assets, net	38,930	38,930	38,930
Other assets, net	18,989	14,074	22,829
Total Other Assets	154,693	149,778	158,533
	\$1,121,433	\$1,166,052	\$1,265,786
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY			
Current Liabilities:			
Accounts payable	\$136,761	\$129,343	\$148,288
Current debt	10,000	10,000	10,000
Other current and deferred liabilities	151,823	158,788	150,433
Liabilities held for sale	—	—	7,297
Total Current Liabilities	298,584	298,131	316,018
Noncurrent Liabilities:			
Long-term debt	77,252	82,219	87,186
Deferred liabilities	126,377	130,743	138,815
Deferred taxes	9,377	15,171	13,562
Total Noncurrent Liabilities	213,006	228,133	239,563
Commitments and Contingencies			
Stockholders' Equity:			
Preferred stock	—	—	—
Common stock	1,320	1,355	1,394
Additional paid-in capital	440,038	435,881	422,387
Treasury stock, at cost	(346,062)	(289,813)	(249,854)
Retained earnings	514,495	492,325	535,613
Accumulated other comprehensive income	52	40	665
Total Stockholders' Equity	609,843	639,788	710,205
	\$1,121,433	\$1,166,052	\$1,265,786

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

Table of Contents

CHICO'S FAS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
 CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
 (Unaudited)
 (In thousands)

	Twenty-Six Weeks Ended July 30, 2016	August 1, 2015
Cash Flows From		
Operating Activities:		
Net income	\$ 54,123	\$ 34,647
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Goodwill and intangible impairment —		66,941
charges, pre-tax		
Depreciation and amortization	55,445	61,672
Loss on disposal and impairment of property and equipment	3,542	21,603
Deferred tax benefit	(7,492)	(39,881)
Stock-based compensation expense	9,623	13,657
Excess tax benefit from stock-based compensation	(220)	(2,170)
Deferred rent and lease credits	(9,523)	(9,219)
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
Inventories	(1,802)	(15,165)
Prepaid expenses and accounts receivable	(3,379)	(8,325)
Income tax receivable	26,087	(10,887)
Accounts payable	(3,130)	(3,045)
Accrued and other liabilities	(1,588)	2,254
Net cash provided by operating activities	121,686	112,082
Cash Flows From Investing Activities:		
Purchases of marketable securities	(28,708)	(29,460)
Proceeds from sale of marketable securities	28,334	107,994
Purchases of property and equipment, net	(25,231)	(42,836)

Edgar Filing: CHICOS FAS INC - Form 10-Q

Net cash (used in) provided by investing activities	(25,605)	35,698
Cash Flows From Financing Activities:		
Proceeds from borrowings	—	124,000
Payments on borrowings	(5,000)	(26,500)
Proceeds from issuance of common stock	1,272	9,087
Excess tax benefit from stock-based compensation	220	2,170
Dividends paid	(21,405)	(22,160)
Repurchase of common stock	(60,560)	(258,834)
Net cash used in financing activities	(85,473)	(172,237)
Effects of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents	(27)	121
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	10,581	(24,336)
Cash and Cash Equivalents, Beginning of period	89,951	133,351
Cash and Cash Equivalents, End of period	\$ 100,532	\$ 109,015
Supplemental Disclosures of Cash Flow Information:		
Cash paid for interest	\$ 1,101	\$ 1,570
Cash paid for income taxes, net	\$ 15,507	\$ 45,285

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

Table of Contents

Chico's FAS, Inc. and Subsidiaries
Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements
July 30, 2016
(Unaudited)

Note 1. Basis of Presentation

The accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements of Chico's FAS, Inc. and its wholly-owned subsidiaries (collectively, the "Company") have been prepared in accordance with the instructions to Form 10-Q and do not include all of the information and notes required by accounting principles generally accepted in the U.S. ("U.S. GAAP") for complete financial statements. In the opinion of management, such interim financial statements reflect all normal, recurring adjustments considered necessary to present fairly the condensed consolidated financial position, the results of operations and cash flows for the interim periods presented. All significant intercompany balances and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation. For further information, refer to the consolidated financial statements and notes thereto for the fiscal year ended January 30, 2016, included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") on March 8, 2016.

As used in this report, all references to "we," "us," "our," and "the Company," refer to Chico's FAS, Inc. and all of its wholly-owned subsidiaries.

Our fiscal years end on the Saturday closest to January 31 and are designated by the calendar year in which the fiscal year commences. Operating results for the thirteen and twenty-six weeks ended July 30, 2016 are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for the entire year.

Reclassifications

Reclassifications of certain prior year balances were made in order to conform to the current year presentation.

Change in Accounting Policy

Effective January 31, 2016, the Company made a voluntary change in accounting principle related to our classification of shipping expenses. Historically, we have presented shipping expenses within selling, general and administrative expenses ("SG&A"). Under the new policy, the Company is presenting these expenses within cost of good sold ("COGS") in the unaudited Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income. The Company believes that this change is preferable as the shipping expenses represent direct costs associated with the sale of our merchandise and improves comparability with the Company's peers. The accounting policy change was applied retrospectively to all periods presented. There was no change to consolidated net income, however, cost of sales increased by \$9.5 million and SG&A decreased by the same amount for the thirteen weeks ended August 1, 2015. The Company recorded \$8.5 million in shipping expense as a component of COGS during the thirteen weeks ended July 30, 2016. For the year-to-date period ended August 1, 2015, cost of sales increased by \$18.8 million and SG&A decreased by the same amount. The Company recorded \$16.8 million in shipping expense as a component of COGS during the twenty-six weeks ended July 30, 2016.

Reclassification of Occupancy Expenses and Correction of Immaterial Accounting Error

The Company has changed its classification of store occupancy expenses. Historically, we have presented store occupancy expenses within SG&A. As now reclassified, the Company is presenting these expenses within COGS in the unaudited Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income. The Company believes that the store occupancy expenses represent direct costs associated with the sale of our merchandise and improves comparability with the Company's peers. This reclassification was applied retrospectively to all periods presented. There was no change to consolidated net income, however, cost of sales increased by \$97.3 million and SG&A decreased by the same amount for the thirteen weeks ended August 1, 2015. The Company recorded \$96.1 million in store occupancy expenses as a component of COGS during the thirteen weeks ended July 30, 2016. For the year-to-date period ended August 1, 2015, cost of sales increased by \$192.5 million and SG&A decreased by the same amount. The Company recorded \$191.9 million in store occupancy expenses as a component of COGS during the twenty-six weeks ended July 30, 2016.

The Company has also elected to correct the historical classification of shipping revenue within SG&A. To correct the immaterial error, we are classifying shipping revenue as a component of net sales within the unaudited Condensed

Consolidated Statements of Income for all periods presented. There was no change to consolidated net income, however, net sales increased by \$5.5 million and SG&A increased by the same amount for the thirteen weeks ended August 1, 2015. The Company recorded \$3.7 million in shipping revenue as a component of net sales during the thirteen weeks ended July 30, 2016. For the year-to-date period ended August 1, 2015, net sales increased by \$9.9 million and SG&A increased by the same amount. The Company recorded \$6.7 million in shipping revenue as a component of net sales during the twenty-six weeks ended July 30, 2016.

Table of Contents

Chico's FAS, Inc. and Subsidiaries
 Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements
 July 30, 2016
 (Unaudited)

Adjustments to Presentation

The above mentioned changes had no cumulative effect on the presentation of the unaudited Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income, Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets, or Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows. The effects of the aforementioned accounting policy change, change in classification and error correction to the August 1, 2015 unaudited Condensed Consolidated Statement of Income are as follows (dollars in thousands):

	As Previously Reported	% of Sales	Change in Accounting Policy	Effect of Change in Occupancy Classification	Effect of Error Correction	As Adjusted	% of Sales
Thirteen weeks ended August 1, 2015:							
Net sales	\$ 680,351	100.0	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 5,475	\$ 685,826	100.0
Cost of goods sold	314,383	46.2	9,484	97,258	—	421,125	61.4
Gross Margin	365,968	53.8	(9,484)	(97,258)	5,475	264,701	38.6
Selling, general and administrative expenses	308,437	45.3	(9,484)	(97,258)	5,475	207,170	30.2

	As Previously Reported	% of Sales	Change in Accounting Policy	Effect of Change in Occupancy Classification	Effect of Error Correction	As Adjusted	% of Sales
Twenty-six weeks ended August 1, 2015:							
Net sales	\$ 1,373,690	100.0	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 9,902	\$ 1,383,592	100.0
Cost of goods sold	611,952	44.5	18,825	192,496	—	823,273	59.5
Gross Margin	761,738	55.5	(18,825)	(192,496)	9,902	560,319	40.5
Selling, general and administrative expenses	636,654	46.3	(18,825)	(192,496)	9,902	435,235	31.5

Footnotes to the unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements herein have been adjusted to reflect the impact of these changes accordingly.

Note 2. New Accounting Pronouncements

In March 2016, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued ASU No. 2016-09, Compensation - Stock Compensation. ASU 2016-09 is effective for fiscal years, and interim periods within those years, beginning after December 15, 2016. ASU 2016-09 requires entities to recognize the income tax effects of awards in the income statement when the awards vest or are settled. The standard also permits an employer to repurchase more of an employee's shares for tax withholding purposes without triggering liability accounting and to make a policy election to account for forfeitures as they occur. This standard will be effective and adopted for our first quarter 2017. We are currently assessing the new standard and its impact to our consolidated results of operations, financial position and cash flows.

In February 2016, the FASB issued ASU No. 2016-02, Leases, which replaces the existing guidance in Accounting Standard Codification 840, Leases. ASU 2016-02 is effective for fiscal years, and interim periods within those years, beginning after December 15, 2018. ASU 2016-02 requires a dual approach for lessee accounting under which a lessee would account for leases as finance leases or operating leases. Both finance leases and operating leases will result in the lessee recognizing a right-of-use asset and corresponding lease liability. For finance leases, the lessee

would recognize interest expense and amortization of the right-of-use asset and for operating leases, the lessee would recognize straight-line total rent expense. We are currently assessing the new standard and its impact to our consolidated results of operations, financial position and cash flows.

Table of Contents

Chico's FAS, Inc. and Subsidiaries
Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements
July 30, 2016
(Unaudited)

In January 2016, the FASB issued ASU No. 2016-01, Recognition and Measurement of Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities, under which entities will no longer be able to recognize unrealized holding gains and losses on equity securities they classify as available for sale in other comprehensive income but instead recognize the change in fair value in net income. The standard is effective for interim and annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2017. We are currently assessing the new standard, but do not, at this time, anticipate a material impact to our consolidated results of operations, financial position or cash flows.

In November 2015, the FASB issued ASU No. 2015-17, Balance Sheet Classification of Deferred Taxes, which modifies the presentation of noncurrent and current deferred taxes. ASU 2015-17 requires that all deferred tax assets and liabilities be classified as noncurrent on the balance sheet instead of separating deferred taxes into current and noncurrent amounts. The standard is effective for interim and annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2016. Early adoption is permitted. We early adopted this standard in the fourth quarter of 2015, with retrospective presentation, as shown in our consolidated balance sheets. Our retrospective presentation resulted in a \$7.3 million reclassification from current assets to other assets, net for the period ending August 1, 2015.

In July 2015, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued ASU No. 2015-11, Simplifying the Measurement of Inventory (Topic 330). The amendments, which apply to inventory that is measured using any method other than the last-in, first-out (LIFO) or retail inventory method, require that entities measure inventory at the lower of cost or net realizable value. ASU 2015-11 is effective for fiscal years, and interim periods within those years, beginning after December 15, 2016 and should be applied on a prospective basis. We are currently assessing the potential impact of adopting this ASU, but do not, at this time, anticipate a material impact to our consolidated results of operations, financial position or cash flows.

In May 2014, the FASB issued ASU No. 2014-09, Revenue from Contracts with Customers. The update outlines a single comprehensive model for entities to use in accounting for revenue arising from contracts with customers and supersedes most current revenue recognition guidance, including industry-specific guidance. ASU 2014-09 requires entities to recognize revenue in a way that depicts the transfer of promised goods or services to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration the entity expects to be entitled to in exchange for those goods or services. In August 2015, the FASB approved a one year deferral of the effective date, to make it effective for annual and interim reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2017. The standard allows for either a full retrospective or a modified retrospective transition method. The FASB has issued subsequent ASUs related to ASU No. 2014-09, which detail amendments to the ASU, implementation considerations, narrow-scope improvements and practical expedients. We are currently assessing the new standard and all related ASUs and its impact to our consolidated results of operations, financial position and cash flows.

Note 3. Restructuring and Strategic Charges

During the fourth quarter of fiscal 2014, we initiated a restructuring program, including the acceleration of domestic store closures and an organizational realignment, to ensure that resources align with long-term growth initiatives, including omni-channel. In fiscal 2015, in connection with the restructuring program, we completed an evaluation of the Boston Proper brand, completed the sale of the Boston Proper direct-to-consumer business, and closed its stores. During the first quarter of fiscal 2016, we announced an expansion of our restructuring program to further align the organizational structure with long-term growth initiatives, including transition of executive leadership, and to reduce COGS and SG&A through strategic initiatives. These strategic initiatives include realigning marketing and digital commerce, improving supply chain efficiency, and reducing non-merchandise and marketing expenses. The Company recorded pre-tax restructuring and strategic charges of \$3.6 million and \$16.6 million in the first and second quarters, respectively. These charges primarily related to severance, proxy solicitation costs and consulting fees.

In connection with the restructuring program, we evaluated our domestic store portfolio and identified approximately 175 stores for closure, with 82 stores across our brands, including 20 Boston Proper stores, closed through the second quarter of fiscal 2016. As a result, we expect to incur additional cash charges related to lease termination expenses of approximately \$1.7 million through fiscal 2017 related to these future closures.

Table of Contents

Chico's FAS, Inc. and Subsidiaries
Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements
July 30, 2016
(Unaudited)

A summary of the restructuring and strategic charges is presented in the table below:

	Thirteen Weeks Ended		Twenty-Six Weeks Ended	
	July 30, 2016	August 1, 2015	July 30, 2016	August 1, 2015
	(in thousands)			
Impairment charges	\$ 1,453	\$ 14,978	\$ 1,453	\$ 20,930
Continuing employee-related costs	—	14	1,015	5,639
Severance charges	8,236	186	9,420	1,820
Proxy solicitation costs	4,524	—	5,589	—
Lease termination charges	127	1,688	348	2,757
Consulting fees	2,234	—	2,234	—
Other charges	(18)	(700)	148	(105)
Total restructuring and strategic charges, pre-tax	\$ 16,556	\$ 16,166	\$ 20,207	\$ 31,041

As of July 30, 2016, a reserve of \$17.2 million related to restructuring and strategic activities was included in other current and deferred liabilities in the accompanying condensed consolidated balance sheets. A roll-forward of the reserve is presented as follows:

	Continuing employee-related costs	Severance Charges	Proxy Solicitation Costs	Lease Termination Charges	Consulting Fees	Other charges	Total
	(in thousands)						
Beginning Balance, January 30, 2016	\$ 2,549	\$ 1,678	\$ —	\$ 1,101	\$ 9	\$ —	\$ 5,337
Charges	1,015	9,420	5,589	348	2,234	148	18,754
Payments	(3,001)	(1,806)	(1,056)	(463)	(424)	(130)	(6,880)
Ending Balance, July 30, 2016	\$ 563	\$ 9,292	\$ 4,533	\$ 986	\$ 1,819	\$ 18	\$ 17,211

Note 4. Stock-Based Compensation

For the twenty-six weeks ended July 30, 2016 and August 1, 2015, stock-based compensation expense was \$9.6 million and \$13.7 million, respectively. As of July 30, 2016, approximately 5.3 million shares remain available for future grants of equity awards under our 2012 Omnibus Stock and Incentive Plan.

Restricted Stock Awards

Restricted stock award activity for the twenty-six weeks ended July 30, 2016 was as follows:

	Number of Shares	Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value
Unvested, beginning of period	2,585,392	\$ 16.60
Granted	1,648,110	12.37
Vested	(906,050)	17.16
Forfeited	(415,285)	15.56
Unvested, end of period	2,912,167	14.18

Table of Contents

Chico's FAS, Inc. and Subsidiaries
 Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements
 July 30, 2016
 (Unaudited)

Performance-based Stock Units

For the twenty-six weeks ended July 30, 2016, we granted performance-based restricted stock units ("PSUs"), contingent upon the achievement of a Company-specific performance goal during fiscal 2016. Any units earned as a result of the achievement of this goal will vest over 3 years from the date of grant and will be settled in shares of our common stock.

Performance-based restricted stock unit activity for the twenty-six weeks ended July 30, 2016 was as follows:

	Number of Shares	Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value
Unvested, beginning of period	469,898	\$ 18.23
Granted	733,360	12.55
Vested	(214,465)	18.23
Forfeited ⁽¹⁾	(247,537)	15.79
Unvested, end of period	741,256	13.43

⁽¹⁾ The performance goal for the PSUs granted in 2015 was not fully met. Forfeitures for the twenty-six weeks ended July 30, 2016 include the portion of the fiscal 2015 PSUs that were not earned.

Stock Option Awards

For the twenty-six weeks ended July 30, 2016 and August 1, 2015, we did not grant any stock options.

Stock option activity for the twenty-six weeks ended July 30, 2016 was as follows:

	Number of Shares	Weighted Average Exercise Price
Outstanding, beginning of period	1,060,774	\$ 15.17
Granted	—	—
Exercised	(23,100)	4.76
Forfeited or expired	(125,219)	26.18
Outstanding and exercisable at July 30, 2016	912,455	13.93

Note 5. Income Taxes

The provision for income taxes is based on a current estimate of the annual effective tax rate and is adjusted as necessary for quarterly events. Our effective income tax rate may fluctuate from quarter to quarter as a result of a variety of factors, including changes in our assessment of certain tax contingencies, valuation allowances, changes in tax law, outcomes of administrative audits, the impact of discrete items, and the mix of earnings.

For the thirteen weeks ended July 30, 2016 and August 1, 2015, the effective tax rate was 38.0% and (108.1)%, respectively. For the thirteen weeks ended July 30, 2016, the income tax provision was \$14.1 million. The income tax benefit for the second quarter of 2015 of \$28.2 million and effective tax rate of (108.1)% primarily reflected the tax benefit related to the disposition of Boston Proper's stock and the impact of the Boston Proper goodwill and trade name impairment on the annual effective tax rate.

For the twenty-six weeks ended July 30, 2016 and August 1, 2015, the effective tax rate was 37.9% and (32.5)%, respectively. The income tax provision for fiscal 2016 of \$33.1 million and effective tax rate of 37.9% primarily reflected the pre-tax net income during the period while the fiscal 2015 benefit primarily reflected the tax benefit related to the disposition of Boston Proper's stock and the impact of the Boston Proper goodwill and trade name

impairment on the annual effective tax rate.

11

Table of Contents

Chico's FAS, Inc. and Subsidiaries
 Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements
 July 30, 2016
 (Unaudited)

Note 6. Earnings Per Share

In accordance with relevant accounting guidance, unvested share-based payment awards that include non-forfeitable rights to dividends, whether paid or unpaid, are considered participating securities. As a result, such awards are required to be included in the calculation of earnings per common share pursuant to the "two-class" method. For us, participating securities are composed entirely of unvested restricted stock awards and PSUs that have met their relevant performance criteria.

Earnings per share ("EPS") is determined using the two-class method when it is more dilutive than the treasury stock method. Basic EPS excludes dilution and is computed by dividing net income available to common stockholders by the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding during the period, including participating securities. Diluted EPS reflects the dilutive effect of potential common shares from non-participating securities such as stock options and PSUs.

The following table sets forth the computation of basic and diluted EPS shown on the face of the accompanying condensed consolidated statements of operations (in thousands, except per share amounts):

	Thirteen Weeks Ended		Twenty-Six Weeks Ended	
	July 30, 2016	August 1, 2015	July 30, 2016	August 1, 2015
Numerator				
Net income	\$23,039	\$ 2,122	\$54,123	\$34,647
Net income and dividends declared allocated to participating securities	(506)	(28)	(1,155)	(804)
Net income available to common shareholders	\$22,533	\$ 2,094	\$52,968	\$33,843
Denominator				
Weighted average common shares outstanding – basic	129,215	138,606	130,406	140,992
Dilutive effect of non-participating securities	147	355	110	347
Weighted average common and common equivalent shares outstanding – diluted	129,362	138,961	130,516	141,339
Net income per common share:				
Basic	\$0.17	\$ 0.02	\$0.41	\$0.24
Diluted	\$0.17	\$ 0.02	\$0.41	\$0.24

For the thirteen weeks weeks ended July 30, 2016 and August 1, 2015, 0.8 million and 0.3 million potential shares of common stock, respectively, were excluded from the diluted per share calculation relating to non-participating securities, because the effect of including these potential shares was antidilutive.

For the twenty-six weeks ended July 30, 2016 and August 1, 2015, 0.9 million and 0.8 million potential shares of common stock, respectively, were excluded from the diluted per share calculation relating to non-participating securities, because the effect of including these potential shares was antidilutive.

Note 7. Fair Value Measurements

Our financial instruments consist of cash, money market accounts, marketable securities, assets held in our non-qualified deferred compensation plan, accounts receivable and payable, and debt. Cash, accounts receivable and accounts payable are carried at cost, which approximates their fair value due to the short-term nature of the instruments.

Marketable securities are classified as available-for-sale and as of July 30, 2016 generally consist of corporate bonds, U.S. government agencies and commercial paper with \$31.5 million of securities with maturity dates within one year

or less and \$19.1 million with maturity dates over one year and less than two years.

We consider all marketable securities available-for-sale, including those with maturity dates beyond 12 months, and therefore classify these securities within current assets on the condensed consolidated balance sheets as they are available to support current operational liquidity needs. Marketable securities are carried at fair value, with the unrealized holding gains and losses, net of income taxes, reflected in accumulated other comprehensive income until realized. For the purposes of computing realized and unrealized gains and losses, cost is determined on a specific identification basis.

Table of Contents

Chico's FAS, Inc. and Subsidiaries
Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements
July 30, 2016
(Unaudited)

Fair value is defined as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in the principal or most advantageous market in an orderly transaction between market participants on the measurement date. Entities are required to use a three-level hierarchy, which requires an entity to maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs when measuring fair value.

The valuation hierarchy is based upon the transparency of inputs to the valuation of an asset or liability on the measurement date. The three levels are defined as follows:

Level 1—Unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities

Unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for similar assets or liabilities, or; Unadjusted quoted prices for Level 2—identical or similar assets or liabilities in markets that are not active, or; Inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability

Level 3—Unobservable inputs for the asset or liability

We measure certain financial assets at fair value on a recurring basis, including our marketable securities, which are classified as available-for-sale securities, certain cash equivalents, specifically our money market accounts, and assets held in our non-qualified deferred compensation plan. The money market accounts are valued based on quoted market prices in active markets. Our marketable securities are generally valued based on other observable inputs for those securities (including market corroborated pricing or other models that utilize observable inputs such as interest rates and yield curves) based on information provided by independent third party pricing entities, except for U.S. government securities which are valued based on quoted market prices in active markets. The investments in our non-qualified deferred compensation plan are valued using quoted market prices and are included in other assets on our condensed consolidated balance sheets.

From time to time, we measure certain assets at fair value on a non-recurring basis, including evaluation of long-lived assets, goodwill and other intangible assets for impairment using company-specific assumptions which would fall within Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy. We estimate the fair value of assets held for sale using market values for similar assets which would fall within Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy.

To assess the fair value of long-term debt, we utilize a discounted future cash flow model using current borrowing rates for similar types of debt of comparable maturities.

Fair value calculations contain significant judgments and estimates, which may differ from actual results due to, among other things, economic conditions, changes to the business model or changes in operating performance. During the quarter ended July 30, 2016, we did not make any transfers between Level 1 and Level 2 financial instruments. Furthermore, as of July 30, 2016, January 30, 2016 and August 1, 2015, we did not have any Level 3 financial instruments. We conduct reviews on a quarterly basis to verify pricing, assess liquidity, and determine if significant inputs have changed that would impact the fair value hierarchy disclosure.

Table of Contents

Chico's FAS, Inc. and Subsidiaries
Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements
July 30, 2016
(Unaudited)

In accordance with the provisions of the guidance, we categorized our financial instruments, which are valued on a recurring basis, based on the priority of the inputs to the valuation technique for the instruments, as follows:

	Fair Value Measurements at Reporting Date Using			
	Balance as of July 30, 2016	Quoted Prices of Active Market Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)
	(in thousands)			
Financial Assets:				
Current Assets				
Cash equivalents:				
Money market accounts	\$ 110	\$ 110	\$ —	\$ —
Marketable securities:				
Municipal securities	1,537	—	1,537	—
U.S. government agencies	23,928	—	23,928	—
Corporate bonds	21,672	—	21,672	—
Commercial paper	3,475	—	3,475	—
Non Current Assets				
Deferred compensation plan	8,401	8,401	—	—
Total	\$59,123	\$8,511	\$ 50,612	\$ —
Financial Liabilities:				
Long-term debt ¹	\$87,252	\$—	\$ 87,677	\$ —
	Balance as of January 30, 2016			
Financial Assets:				
Current Assets				
Cash equivalents:				
Money market accounts	\$275	\$275	\$ —	\$ —
Marketable securities:				
U.S. government agencies	21,800	—	21,800	—
Corporate bonds	26,149	—	26,149	—
Commercial paper	2,245	—	2,245	—
Non Current Assets				
Deferred compensation plan	7,023	7,023	—	—
Total	\$57,492	\$7,298	\$ 50,194	\$ —
Financial Liabilities:				
Long-term debt	\$92,219	\$—	\$ 92,647	\$ —

Edgar Filing: CHICOS FAS INC - Form 10-Q

Balance as of
August
1, 2015

Financial Assets:

Current Assets

Cash equivalents:

Money market accounts	\$2,332	\$2,332	\$ —	\$ —
-----------------------	---------	---------	------	------

Marketable securities:

U.S. government agencies	17,022	—	17,022	—
--------------------------	--------	---	--------	---

Corporate bonds	28,977	—	28,977	—
-----------------	--------	---	--------	---

Commercial paper	2,000	—	2,000	—
------------------	-------	---	-------	---

Non Current Assets

Deferred compensation plan	9,454	9,454	—	—
----------------------------	-------	-------	---	---

Total	\$59,785	\$11,786	\$ 47,999	\$ —
-------	----------	----------	-----------	------

Financial Liabilities:

Long-term debt	97,186	—	124,000	—
----------------	--------	---	---------	---

¹ The carrying value of long-term debt includes the remaining unamortized discount of \$0.2 million on the issuance of debt.

Table of Contents

Chico's FAS, Inc. and Subsidiaries
 Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements
 July 30, 2016
 (Unaudited)

Note 8. Debt

In fiscal 2015, we entered into a credit agreement (the "Agreement") providing for a term loan of \$100.0 million and a revolving credit facility of \$100.0 million. The term loan and revolving credit facility mature on May 4, 2020 and accrue interest by reference, at our election, at either an adjusted eurodollar rate tied to LIBOR or an Alternate Base Rate plus an interest rate margin, as defined in the Agreement. The Agreement contains customary representations, warranties, and affirmative covenants, including the requirement to maintain certain financial ratios. The Company was in compliance with the applicable ratio requirements and other covenants at July 30, 2016. As of July 30, 2016, we had total available borrowing capacity of \$100.0 million under our revolving credit facility.

The following table provides details on our debt outstanding as of July 30, 2016, January 30, 2016 and August 1, 2015:

	July 30, 2016	January 30, 2016	August 1, 2015
	(in thousands)		
Credit Agreement, net	\$87,252	\$92,219	\$97,186
Less: current portion	(10,000)	(10,000)	(10,000)
Total long-term debt	\$77,252	\$82,219	\$87,186

Note 9. Share Repurchases

During the twenty-six weeks ended July 30, 2016, we repurchased 4.9 million shares, under our share repurchase program announced in November 2015 at a total cost of approximately \$56.3 million. As of July 30, 2016, the Company has \$203.7 million remaining under the share repurchase program. However, we have no continuing obligation to repurchase shares under this authorization, and the timing, actual number and value of any additional shares to be purchased will depend on the performance of our stock price, market conditions and other considerations.

Note 10. Commitments and Contingencies

In June 2015, the Company was named as a defendant in *Ackerman v. Chico's FAS, Inc.*, a putative representative Private Attorney General action filed in the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles. The Complaint alleges numerous violations of California law related to wages, meal periods, rest periods, wage statements, and failure to reimburse business expenses, among other things. Plaintiff subsequently amended her complaint to make the same allegations on a class action basis. In June 2016, the parties submitted a proposed settlement of the matter to the court, and the court granted preliminary approval on August 26, 2016. If finally approved, the settlement will not have a material adverse effect on the Company's consolidated financial condition or results of operations.

In March 2016, the Company was named as a defendant in *Cunningham v. Chico's FAS, Inc.*, a putative class action filed in the Superior Court of California, County of San Diego. Plaintiff seeks to represent current and former nonexempt employees of Soma Intimates in California. The Complaint alleges many of the same Labor Code violations as *Ackerman*, described above. The court has stayed the *Cunningham* case pending final approval of the *Ackerman* settlement in light of the fact that *Ackerman* was first filed and likely covers all of the claims that are alleged in *Cunningham*. As a result, at this time, the Company does not expect that the *Cunningham* case will have a material adverse effect on the Company's consolidated financial condition or results of operations.

In June 2016, the Company was named as a defendant in *Rodems v. Chico's FAS, Inc.*, a putative class action filed in the Superior Court of California, County of Fresno. Plaintiff seeks to represent current and former nonexempt employees of Chico's stores in California. The Complaint alleges many of the same Labor Code violations as *Ackerman*, described above. The court has stayed the matter pending final approval of the *Ackerman* settlement for the same reasons described in the *Cunningham* case discussion above. As a result, at this time, the Company does not

expect that the Rodems case will have a material adverse effect on the Company's consolidated financial condition or results of operations.

In July 2015, the Company was named as a defendant in Altman v. White House Black Market, Inc., a putative class action filed in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Georgia. The Complaint alleges that the Company, in violation of federal law, published more than the last five digits of a credit or debit card number or an expiration date on customers' receipts. The Company denies the material allegations of the complaint. Its motion to dismiss was denied on July 13, 2016, but the Company continues to believe that the case is without merit and is not appropriate for class treatment. It intends to vigorously defend the matter. At this time however, it is not possible to predict whether the proceeding will be

Table of Contents

Chico's FAS, Inc. and Subsidiaries
Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements
July 30, 2016
(Unaudited)

permitted to proceed as a class or the size of the putative class, and no assurance can be given that the Company will be successful in its defense on the merits or otherwise. Because the case is still in the early stages and class determinations have not been made, the Company is unable to estimate any potential loss or range of loss.

On July 28, 2016, the Company was named as a defendant in *Calleros v. Chico's FAS, Inc.*, a putative class action filed in the Superior Court of California, County of Santa Barbara. Plaintiff alleges that the Company failed to comply with California law requiring it to provide consumers cash for gift cards with a stored value of less than \$10.00. The Company is reviewing the factual allegations in the Complaint and is not yet able to ascertain the merit or the value of the claims asserted. On initial review, the Company believes that the matter is not appropriate for class treatment; however, it is not possible to predict whether it will be permitted to proceed as a class or the size of the putative class, and no assurance can be given that the Company will be successful in its defense of this action on the merits or otherwise. Because the case is in the very early stage and class determinations have not been made, the Company is unable to estimate any potential loss or range of loss.

Other than as noted above, we are not currently a party to any legal proceedings other than claims and lawsuits arising in the normal course of business. All such matters are subject to uncertainties and outcomes may not be predictable. Consequently, the ultimate aggregate amount of monetary liability or financial impact with respect to these matters as of July 30, 2016 are not estimable. However, while such matters could affect our consolidated operating results when resolved in future periods, management believes that upon final disposition, any monetary liability or financial impact to us would not be material to our annual consolidated financial statements.

Note 11. Subsequent Events

The Company is not aware of any material subsequent events which would require recognition or disclosure in the condensed consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents

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

Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations ("MD&A") should be read in conjunction with the accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements and notes thereto and our 2015 Annual Report to Stockholders.

Executive Overview

We are a leading omni-channel specialty retailer of women's private branded, sophisticated, casual-to-dressy clothing, intimates, complementary accessories, and other non-clothing items operating under the Chico's, White House Black Market ("WHBM") and Soma brand names. We earn revenues and generate cash through the sale of merchandise in our domestic and international retail stores, on our various websites, through our call center which takes orders for all of our brands, and through an unaffiliated franchise partner in Mexico.

We utilize an integrated omni-channel approach to managing our business. We want our customers to experience our brands, not limited to a channel within our brands, and view our various sales channels as a single, integrated process rather than as separate sales channels operating independently. This approach allows our customers to browse, purchase, return, or exchange our merchandise through whatever sales channel and at whatever time is most convenient. As a result, we track total sales and comparable sales on a combined basis.

Net sales for the second quarter of fiscal 2016 were \$635.7 million compared to \$685.8 million in last year's second quarter. This decrease of 7.3% included \$26.3 million related to Boston Proper and reflected a 3.1% decrease in comparable sales and closed stores. The 3.1% decrease in comparable sales for the second quarter was following a 0.5% increase in last year's second quarter, reflecting a decrease in transaction count and slightly lower average dollar sale.

We reported net income for the second quarter of fiscal 2016 of \$23.0 million, or \$0.17 per diluted share, compared to net income of \$2.1 million, or \$0.02 per diluted share, in last year's second quarter. Results for the second quarter of fiscal 2016 include the impact of restructuring and strategic charges of \$10.3 million after-tax, or \$0.08 per diluted share, primarily consisting of severance, proxy solicitation costs, and consulting fees. Results for the second quarter of fiscal 2015 include the impact of Boston Proper non-cash goodwill and trade name impairment charges of \$47.1 million after-tax, or \$0.33 per diluted share, restructuring and strategic charges of \$10.1 million after-tax, or \$0.07 per diluted share, primarily related to property and equipment impairment charges for the Boston Proper stores, a tax benefit related to the expected disposition of Boston Proper's stock of \$23.8 million, or \$0.17 per diluted share, and the operating loss related to Boston Proper of \$2.0 million, or \$0.01 per diluted share.

Net sales for the year-to-date period of fiscal 2016 were \$1.279 billion, a decrease of 7.6% compared to \$1.384 billion in last year's year-to-date period. Net income for the year-to-date period of fiscal 2016 was \$54.1 million, or \$0.41 per diluted share, compared to net income of \$34.6 million, or \$0.24 per diluted share, in last year's year-to-date period. Results for the year-to-date period of fiscal 2016 include the impact of restructuring and strategic charges of \$12.5 million after-tax, or \$0.09 per diluted share, primarily consisting of severance, proxy solicitation costs, and consulting fees. Results for the year-to-date period of fiscal 2015 include the impact of Boston Proper non-cash goodwill and trade name impairment charges of \$47.1 million after-tax, or \$0.33 per diluted share, restructuring and strategic charges of \$19.3 million after-tax, or \$0.13 per diluted share, primarily related to property and equipment impairment charges, employee-related costs and lease termination charges, a tax benefit related to the disposition of Boston Proper's stock of \$23.8 million, or \$0.17 per diluted share, and the operating loss related to Boston Proper of \$4.7 million, or \$0.04 per diluted share.

Our Business Strategy

Our overall business strategy is focused on building and cultivating a portfolio of high-performing retail brands serving the fashion needs of women 35 years and older. We are focused on increasing the sales volume and profitability of our existing brands through our four focus areas: (1) evolving the customer experience, (2) strengthening our brands' positions, (3) leveraging actionable retail science, and (4) sharpening our financial principles. Over the long term, we may build our brand portfolio by organic development or acquisition of other specialty retail concepts if research indicates that the opportunity complements our current brands and is appropriate

and in the best interest of the shareholders.

We pursue the growth of the brands in our portfolio by building our omni-channel capabilities, which includes managing our store base and our growing online presence, executing marketing plans, effectively leveraging expenses and optimizing the potential of each of our three brands. We have invested heavily in our omni-channel capabilities in order to allow customers to fully experience our brands, and not just a channel within our brands. In essence, we view our various sales channels as a single, integrated process rather than as separate sales channels operating independently. To that end, we often refer to our brands' respective websites as "our largest store" within the brand.

17

Table of Contents

Under this integrated, omni-channel approach, we encourage our customers to take advantage of each of our sales channels in whatever way best fits their needs. Customers may shop our products through one channel and consummate the purchase through a different channel. Our domestic customers have the option of returning merchandise to a store or to our distribution center, regardless of the channel used for purchase. We believe this omni-channel approach meets our customers' expectations, enhances the customer experience, contributes to the overall success of our brands, reflects that our customers do not differentiate between channels, and is consistent with how we plan and manage our business. As a result, we maintain a shared inventory platform for our operations, allowing us to fulfill orders for all channels from our distribution center in Winder, Georgia. We also fulfill in-store orders directly from other stores or our distribution center and offer domestic online and catalog customers the option of returning items to our stores.

We seek to acquire and retain omni-channel customers by leveraging existing customer-specific data and through targeted marketing, including e-marketing, television, catalogs and mailers. We seek to optimize the potential of our brands with improved product offerings, which includes potential new merchandise opportunities and brand extensions that complement the current offerings, as well as our continued emphasis on our "Most Amazing Personal Service" standard.

In 2016, we announced new initiatives to realign marketing and digital commerce, improve supply chain efficiency, and reduce non-merchandise and marketing expenses. Actions taken as part of these initiatives are expected to reduce expenses and complexity, standardize processes and improve the Company's ability to respond in real-time to changes in customer demand for merchandise. Additionally, the Company announced an organizational redesign, which clarified roles, responsibilities and processes across our brands and shared service center.

Table of Contents

RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Thirteen Weeks Ended July 30, 2016 Compared to the Thirteen Weeks Ended August 1, 2015

Net Sales

The following table depicts net sales by Chico's, WHBM, Soma and Boston Proper in dollars and as a percentage of total net sales for the thirteen weeks ended July 30, 2016 and August 1, 2015:

	Thirteen Weeks Ended			
	July 30, 2016		August 1, 2015	
	(dollars in thousands)			
Chico's	\$334,160	52.6 %	\$355,417	51.8 %
WHBM	208,038	32.7	213,275	31.1
Soma	93,534	14.7	90,831	13.2
Boston Proper	—	—	26,303	3.9
Total net sales	\$635,732	100.0%	\$685,826	100.0%

Net sales for the second quarter decreased to \$635.7 million from \$685.8 million in last year's second quarter. This 7.3% decrease includes \$26.3 million related to Boston Proper in last year's second quarter and primarily reflects a 3.1% decrease in comparable sales and closed stores. Net sales reflects 31 net store closures, including 20 Boston Proper store closures, or a 1.4% net decrease in selling square footage since last year's second quarter. The 3.1% decrease in comparable sales for the second quarter followed a 0.5% increase in last year's second quarter, and reflected reduced transaction count and slightly lower average dollar sale.

The following table depicts comparable sales percentages by Chico's, WHBM and Soma for the thirteen weeks ended July 30, 2016 and August 1, 2015:

	Thirteen Weeks Ended	
	July 30, 2016	August 1, 2015
Chico's	(5.1)%	0.9 %
WHBM	(1.3)%	(1.9)%
Soma	0.7 %	5.1 %
Total Company	(3.1)%	0.5 %

Cost of Goods Sold/Gross Margin

The following table depicts cost of goods sold and gross margin in dollars and gross margin as a percentage of total net sales for the thirteen weeks ended July 30, 2016 and August 1, 2015:

	Thirteen Weeks Ended	
	July 30, 2016	August 1, 2015
	(dollars in thousands)	
Cost of goods sold	\$394,922	\$421,125
Gross margin	\$240,810	\$264,701
Gross margin percentage	37.9 %	38.6 %

For the second quarter of fiscal 2016, gross margin was \$240.8 million, or 37.9%, compared to \$264.7 million, or 38.6%, in last year's second quarter. When excluding Boston Proper from fiscal 2015, gross margin decreased 80 basis points in fiscal 2016 compared to gross margin of \$255.3 million, or 38.7% last year. This decrease in gross margin rate primarily reflects sales deleverage of occupancy costs partially offset by a slight increase in merchandise margin rate.

Table of Contents

Selling, General and Administrative Expenses

The following table depicts SG&A, which includes direct operating expenses, marketing expenses and National Store Support Center (“NSSC”) expenses, in dollars and as a percentage of total net sales for the thirteen weeks ended July 30, 2016 and August 1, 2015:

	Thirteen Weeks Ended	
	July 30, 2016	August 1, 2015
	(dollars in thousands)	
Selling, general and administrative expenses	\$186,626	\$207,170
Percentage of total net sales	29.4 %	30.2 %

For the second quarter of fiscal 2016, SG&A was \$186.6 million compared to \$207.2 million in last year's second quarter. SG&A was 29.4% of net sales, an 80 basis point decrease from last year's second quarter, primarily due to \$12.7 million of SG&A related to Boston Proper in the second quarter of fiscal 2015, and lower store labor, stock-based compensation and marketing expenses, resulting in a slight decline in SG&A rate.

Restructuring and Strategic Charges

In fiscal 2014, we initiated a restructuring program, including the acceleration of domestic store closures and an organizational realignment, to ensure that resources are aligned with long-term growth initiatives, including omni-channel. During the first quarter of fiscal 2016, we announced an expansion of our restructuring program to further align the organizational structure with long-term growth initiatives, including transition of executive leadership, and to reduce COGS and SG&A through strategic initiatives. These strategic initiatives include realigning marketing and digital commerce, improving supply chain efficiency, and reducing non-merchandise and marketing expenses. During the second quarter of fiscal 2016, the Company continued its cost reduction and operating efficiency initiatives and subsequently announced an organizational redesign which clarified roles, responsibilities and processes across our brands and shared service center.

In connection with this effort, in the second quarter of fiscal 2016, we recorded pre-tax restructuring as well as other strategic charges totaling \$16.6 million, primarily consisting of severance, proxy solicitation costs, and consulting fees. The after-tax impact of the restructuring and strategic charges in the second quarter totaled \$10.3 million, or \$0.08 per diluted share.

In connection with the restructuring program, we evaluated our domestic store portfolio and identified approximately 175 stores for closure, with 82 stores across our brands, including 20 Boston Proper stores, closed through the second quarter of fiscal 2016. As a result, we expect to incur additional cash charges related to lease termination expenses of approximately \$1.7 million through fiscal 2017 related to these future closures.

Provision for Income Taxes

Our effective tax rate for the second quarter of fiscal 2016 was 38.0%, compared to an effective tax rate of (108.1)% in last year's second quarter. The income tax benefit of \$28.2 million for the second quarter of fiscal 2015 and effective tax rate of (108.1)% primarily reflected the tax benefit related to the disposition of Boston Proper's stock and the tax benefit of Boston Proper goodwill impairment on the annual effective tax rate. Excluding the tax benefit related to the disposition of Boston Proper's stock and the impact of the Boston Proper goodwill and trade name impairment, the 2015 second quarter effective tax rate would have been 37.7% which is comparable to the 38.0% effective tax rate for the thirteen weeks ended July 30, 2016.

Net Income and Earnings Per Diluted Share

We reported net income for the second quarter of fiscal 2016 of \$23.0 million, or \$0.17 per diluted share, compared to net income of \$2.1 million, or \$0.02 per diluted share in last year's second quarter. Results for the second quarter of fiscal 2016 include the impact of restructuring and strategic charges of \$10.3 million after-tax, or \$0.08 per diluted share, primarily related to severance, proxy solicitation costs and consulting fees. Results for the second quarter of fiscal 2015 include charges of \$35.4 million after-tax, or \$0.24 per diluted share, related to Boston Proper non-cash goodwill and trade name impairment charges, restructuring and strategic charges, a tax benefit as a result of the disposition of Boston Proper's stock, and Boston Proper operating results.

Table of Contents

Twenty-Six Weeks Ended July 30, 2016 Compared to the Twenty-Six Weeks Ended August 1, 2015

Net Sales

The following table depicts net sales by Chico's, WHBM, Soma and Boston Proper in dollars and as a percentage of total net sales for the twenty-six weeks ended July 30, 2016 and August 1, 2015:

	Twenty-Six Weeks Ended			
	July 30, 2016		August 1, 2015	
	(dollars in thousands)			
Chico's	\$682,864	53.4 %	\$725,276	52.4 %
WHBM	423,031	33.1 %	438,717	31.7 %
Soma	172,814	13.5 %	167,998	12.1 %
Boston Proper	—	0.0 %	51,601	3.8 %
Total net sales	\$1,278,709	100.0%	\$1,383,592	100.0%

Net sales for the year-to-date period decreased to \$1.279 billion from \$1.384 billion in last year's year-to-date period. This 7.6% decrease includes \$51.6 million related to Boston Proper in last year's year-to-date period and primarily reflects a 3.7% decrease in comparable sales. The 3.7% decrease in comparable sales for the year-to-date period was following a 0.2% increase in last year's year-to-date period, primarily reflecting a decrease in average dollar sale and transaction count.

The following table depicts comparable sales percentages by Chico's, WHBM and Soma for the twenty-six weeks ended July 30, 2016 and August 1, 2015:

	Twenty-six weeks ended	
	July 30, 2016	August 1, 2015
Chico's	(5.3)%	(0.8)%
WHBM	(2.7)%	0.0 %
Soma	0.6 %	5.7 %
Total Company	(3.7)%	0.2 %

Cost of Goods Sold/Gross Margin

The following table depicts cost of goods sold and gross margin in dollars and gross margin as a percentage of total net sales for the twenty-six weeks ended July 30, 2016 and August 1, 2015:

	Twenty-Six Weeks Ended	
	July 30, 2016	August 1, 2015
	(dollars in thousands)	
Cost of goods sold	\$775,564	\$823,273
Gross margin	\$503,145	\$560,319
Gross margin percentage	39.3 %	40.5 %

Gross margin for the year-to-date period was \$503.1 million, or 39.3%, compared to \$560.3 million, or 40.5%, in last year's year-to-date period. When excluding Boston Proper from fiscal 2015, gross margin decreased 140 basis points in fiscal 2016 compared to \$542.3 million, or 40.7%, in last year's year-to-date period. The decrease is primarily due to sales deleverage of occupancy costs and increased promotional activity in response to lower traffic.

Table of Contents

Selling, General and Administrative Expenses

The following table depicts SG&A, which includes store and direct operating expenses, marketing expenses and NSSC expenses, in dollars and as a percentage of total net sales for the twenty-six weeks ended July 30, 2016 and August 1, 2015:

	Twenty-Six Weeks Ended			
	July 30, 2016		August 1, 2015	
	(dollars in thousands)			
Selling, general and administrative expenses	\$394,767		\$435,235	
Percentage of total net sales	30.9	%	31.5	%

For the year-to-date period of fiscal 2016, SG&A was \$394.8 million compared to \$435.2 million in last year's year-to-date period. SG&A was 30.9% of net sales, a 60 basis point decrease from last year's year-to-date period, primarily due to \$25.7 million of SG&A related to Boston Proper in the year-to-date period of fiscal 2015, and lower store labor, incentive compensation and marketing expenses, resulting in a slight decline in SG&A rate.

Restructuring and Strategic Charges

Restructuring and strategic charges for the year-to-date period were \$20.2 million pre-tax, primarily consisting of severance, proxy solicitation costs, and consulting fees. The after-tax impact of the restructuring and strategic charges totaled \$12.5 million, or \$0.09 per diluted share.

Provision for Income Taxes

Our effective tax rate for the year-to-date period was 37.9% compared to an effective rate rate of (32.5)% in last year's year-to-date period. The income tax provision of \$33.1 million and effective tax rate of 37.9% primarily reflected the pre-tax net income during the period. The income tax benefit and effective tax rate for fiscal 2015 reflected the tax benefit related to the disposition of Boston Proper's stock and the impact of the Boston Proper goodwill and trade name impairment on the annual effective rate. Excluding the tax benefit related to the disposition of Boston Proper's stock and the impact of the Boston Proper goodwill and trade name impairment, the effective tax rate for the year-to-date period of fiscal 2015 would have been 37.7% compared to an effective tax rate of 37.9% in the current year's year-to-date period.

Net Income and Earnings Per Diluted Share

Net income for the year-to-date period of fiscal 2016 was \$54.1 million, or \$0.41 per diluted share, compared to net income of \$34.6 million, or \$0.24 per diluted share, in last year's year-to-date period. Results for the year-to-date period of fiscal 2016 include the impact of restructuring and strategic charges of \$12.5 million after-tax, or \$0.09 per diluted share, primarily related to severance, proxy solicitation costs and consulting fees. Results for the year-to-date period of fiscal 2015 charges of \$47.4 million after tax, or \$0.33 per diluted share, related to Boston Proper non-cash goodwill and trade name impairment charges, restructuring and strategic charges, a tax benefit as a result of the disposition of Boston Proper's stock and Boston Proper operating results.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

We believe that our existing cash and marketable securities balances, cash generated from operations, available credit facilities and potential future borrowings will be sufficient to fund capital expenditures, working capital needs, dividend payments, potential share repurchases, commitments, and other liquidity requirements associated with our operations for the foreseeable future. Furthermore, while it is our intention to repurchase our stock and pay a quarterly cash dividend in the future, any determination to repurchase additional shares of our stock or pay future dividends will be made by the Board of Directors and will depend on our stock price, future earnings, financial condition, and other factors considered by the Board.

Our ongoing capital requirements will continue to be primarily for enhancing and expanding our omni-channel capabilities, including: information technology and relocated, remodeled and new stores.

Table of Contents

Operating Activities

Net cash provided by operating activities for the year-to-date period of fiscal 2016 was \$121.7 million, an increase of approximately \$9.6 million from last year's year-to-date period. This increase primarily reflected the change in working capital, partially offset by lower net income compared to prior year when adjusted for non-cash impairment charges and the deferred tax benefit related to the exit of Boston Proper, as well as lower stock compensation expense and depreciation and amortization as a result of our strategic initiatives. The change in working capital is primarily due to a decrease in net income tax receivable and lower in-transit inventories.

Investing Activities

Net cash used in investing activities for the year-to-date period of fiscal 2016 was \$25.6 million compared to \$35.7 million provided by investing activities in last year's year-to-date period, primarily reflecting a \$78.9 million decrease in marketable securities related to share repurchases in fiscal 2015. Investing activities in the second quarter of fiscal 2016 included net purchases of property and equipment totaling \$25.2 million compared to \$42.8 million in the same period last year, consistent with our overall business strategy.

Financing Activities

Net cash used in financing activities for the year-to-date period of fiscal 2016 was \$85.5 million compared to \$172.2 million in last year's year-to-date period. The decrease in net cash used in financing activities primarily reflects a decrease of \$198.3 million in share repurchases in fiscal 2016 compared to fiscal 2015, partially offset by net borrowings of \$97.5 million under our Credit Agreement in fiscal 2015.

Store and Franchise Activity

During the fiscal 2016 year-to-date period, we had 1 net store closure, consisting of net closures of 5 Chico's and 2 WHBM stores, and openings of 6 Soma stores. Currently, we expect an additional 20 net store closures in fiscal 2016, reflecting approximately 20 net closures of Chico's stores, 6 net closures of WHBM stores and 6 net openings of Soma stores. We continuously evaluate the appropriate new store growth rate in light of economic conditions and may adjust the growth rate as conditions require or as opportunities arise. As of July 30, 2016, we also sold merchandise through 78 international franchise locations.

Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates

The discussion and analysis of our financial condition and results of operations are based upon the condensed consolidated financial statements, which have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States. The preparation of condensed consolidated financial statements requires us to make estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenue, expenses, and related disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. We base our estimates on historical experience and on various other assumptions that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis for making judgments about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates under different assumptions or conditions. Management has discussed the development and selection of these critical accounting policies and estimates with the Audit Committee of our Board of Directors and believes the assumptions and estimates, as set forth in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended January 30, 2016, are significant to reporting our results of operations and financial position.

In fiscal 2016 we implemented changes to our accounting policy for the classification of shipping expense, corrected an immaterial error in the classification of shipping revenue and changed the classification of occupancy expenses. Please see Note 1 in our Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements for a detailed description and reconciliation of these matters.

Other than discussed above, there have been no material changes to our critical accounting policies as disclosed in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended January 30, 2016.

Table of Contents

Forward-Looking Statements

This Form 10-Q may contain certain “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, which reflect our current views with respect to certain events that could have an effect on our future financial performance, including but without limitation, statements regarding our plans, objectives, the implementation of our previously announced restructuring program and organizational redesign for improved business performance, including our re-balancing of our store fleet and streamlining the headquarter workforce, and the future success of our store concepts. These statements may address items such as future sales, gross margin expectations, SG&A expectations (particularly estimated expected savings), operating margin expectations, earnings per share expectations, planned store openings, closings and expansions, future comparable sales, future product sourcing plans, inventory levels, planned marketing expenditures, planned capital expenditures and future cash needs. In addition, from time to time, we may issue press releases and other written communications, and our representatives may make oral statements, which contain forward-looking information.

These statements, including those in this Form 10-Q and those in press releases or made orally, relate to expectations concerning matters that are not historical fact and may include the words or phrases such as “expects,” “believes,” “anticipates,” “plans,” “estimates,” “approximately,” “our planning assumptions,” “future outlook,” and similar expressions. E for historical information, matters discussed in such oral and written statements, including this Form 10-Q, are forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements are based largely on information currently available to our management and on our current expectations, assumptions, plans, estimates, judgments and projections about our business and our industry, and are subject to various risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from historical results or those currently anticipated. Although we believe our expectations are based on reasonable estimates and assumptions, they are not guarantees of performance and there are a number of known and unknown risks, uncertainties, contingencies, and other factors (many of which are outside our control) that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Accordingly, there is no assurance that our expectations will, in fact, occur or that our estimates or assumptions will be correct, and we caution investors and all others not to place undue reliance on such forward-looking statements. Factors that could cause or contribute to such differences include, but are not limited to, those described in Item 1A, “Risk Factors” in our Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the SEC on March 8, 2016, those described in Item 1A herein, and the following:

These potential risks and uncertainties include: the financial strength of retailing in particular and the economy in general; the extent of financial difficulties that may be experienced by customers; our ability to secure and maintain customer acceptance of styles and store concepts; the ability to effectively manage and maintain an appropriate level of inventory; the extent and nature of competition in the markets in which we operate; the extent of the market demand and overall level of spending for women’s private branded clothing and related accessories; the effectiveness of our brand awareness and marketing programs; the adequacy and perception of customer service; the ability to respond to actions of activist shareholders and others; the ability to coordinate product development with buying and planning; the quality of merchandise received from suppliers; the ability to efficiently, timely and successfully execute significant shifts in the countries from which merchandise is supplied; the ability of our suppliers to timely produce and deliver clothing and accessories; the changes in the costs of manufacturing, labor and advertising; the availability of quality store sites; our ability to manage our store fleet and the risk that our investments in shopping initiatives may not deliver the results we anticipate; the risk that comparable sales and margins will experience fluctuations; the ability to successfully execute our business strategies; the continuing performance, implementation and integration of management information systems; the impact of any systems failures, cyber security or security breaches, including any security breaches that result in theft, transfer, or unauthorized disclosure of customer, employee, or company information or our compliance with information security and privacy laws and regulations in the event of such an incident; the ability to hire, train, energize and retain qualified sales associates, managerial employees and other employees; the successful integration of our new management team; the ability to achieve the results of our previously announced restructuring program; the ability to expand our distribution center and other support facilities in an efficient and effective manner; the ability to effectively and efficiently establish our websites; the ability to secure and

protect trademarks and other intellectual property rights and to protect our reputation and brand images; and the risk that natural disasters, public health crises, political rises, or other catastrophic events could adversely affect our operations and financial results. In addition, there are potential risks and uncertainties that are related to our reliance on sourcing from foreign suppliers, including the impact of work stoppages; transportation delays and other interruptions; political or civil instability; imposition of and changes in tariffs and import and export controls such as import quotas; changes in governmental policies in or towards foreign countries; currency exchange rates and other similar factors.

All written or oral forward-looking statements that are made or attributable to us are expressly qualified in their entirety by this cautionary notice. The forward-looking statements included herein are only made as of the date of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q. We undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

Table of Contents

ITEM 3. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

The market risk of our financial instruments as of July 30, 2016 has not significantly changed since January 30, 2016. We are exposed to market risk from changes in interest rates on any future indebtedness and our marketable securities and from foreign currency exchange rate fluctuations.

Our exposure to interest rate risk relates in part to our revolving line of credit with our bank. On May 4, 2015, we entered into a credit agreement, as further discussed in Note 7. The Agreement, which matures on May 4, 2020, has borrowing options which accrue interest by reference, at our election, at either an adjusted eurodollar rate tied to LIBOR or an Alternate Base Rate plus an interest rate margin, as defined in the Agreement. An increase or decrease in market interest rates of 100 basis points would not have a material effect on annual interest expense.

Our investment portfolio is maintained in accordance with our investment policy which identifies allowable investments, specifies credit quality standards and limits the credit exposure of any single issuer. Our investment portfolio consists of cash equivalents and marketable securities including municipal securities, corporate bonds, U.S. government agencies and commercial paper. The marketable securities portfolio as of July 30, 2016, consisted of \$31.5 million of securities with maturity dates within one year or less and \$19.1 million with maturity dates over one year and less than or equal to two years. We consider all marketable securities available-for-sale, including those with maturity dates beyond 12 months, and therefore classify these securities as short-term investments within current assets on the condensed consolidated balance sheets as they are available to support current operational liquidity needs. As of July 30, 2016, an increase or decrease of 100 basis points in interest rates would not have a material effect on the fair value of our marketable securities portfolio.

ITEM 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures

Our disclosure controls and procedures are designed to provide reasonable assurance that information required to be disclosed in our reports under the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the SEC's rules and forms.

As of the end of the period covered by this report, an evaluation was carried out under the supervision and with the participation of management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, of the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, as amended). Based upon that evaluation, the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that, as of the end of such period, our disclosure controls and procedures were effective in providing reasonable assurance in timely alerting them to material information relating to us (including our consolidated subsidiaries) and that information required to be disclosed in our reports is recorded, processed, summarized, and reported as required to be included in our periodic SEC filings.

Changes in Internal Controls

There were no significant changes in our internal controls or in other factors that could significantly affect our disclosure controls and procedures subsequent to the date of the above referenced evaluation. Furthermore, there was no change in our internal control over financial reporting or in other factors during the quarterly period covered by this report that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

Table of Contents

PART II – OTHER INFORMATION

ITEM 1. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

In June 2015, the Company was named as a defendant in *Ackerman v. Chico's FAS, Inc.*, a putative representative Private Attorney General action filed in the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles. The Complaint alleges numerous violations of California law related to wages, meal periods, rest periods, wage statements, and failure to reimburse business expenses, among other things. Plaintiff subsequently amended her complaint to make the same allegations on a class action basis. In June 2016, the parties submitted a proposed settlement of the matter to the court, and the court granted preliminary approval on August 26, 2016. If finally approved, the settlement will not have a material adverse effect on the Company's consolidated financial condition or results of operations.

In March 2016, the Company was named as a defendant in *Cunningham v. Chico's FAS, Inc.*, a putative class action filed in the Superior Court of California, County of San Diego. Plaintiff seeks to represent current and former nonexempt employees of Soma Intimates in California. The Complaint alleges many of the same Labor Code violations as *Ackerman*, described above. The court has stayed the *Cunningham* case pending final approval of the *Ackerman* settlement in light of the fact that *Ackerman* was first filed and likely covers all of the claims that are alleged in *Cunningham*. As a result, at this time, the Company does not expect that the *Cunningham* case will have a material adverse effect on the Company's consolidated financial condition or results of operations.

In June 2016, the Company was named as a defendant in *Rodems v. Chico's FAS, Inc.*, a putative class action filed in the Superior Court of California, County of Fresno. Plaintiff seeks to represent current and former nonexempt employees of Chico's stores in California. The Complaint alleges many of the same Labor Code violations as *Ackerman*, described above. The court has stayed the matter pending final approval of the *Ackerman* settlement for the same reasons described in the *Cunningham* case discussion above. As a result, at this time, the Company does not expect that the *Rodems* case will have a material adverse effect on the Company's consolidated financial condition or results of operations.

In July 2015, the Company was named as a defendant in *Altman v. White House Black Market, Inc.*, a putative class action filed in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Georgia. The Complaint alleges that the Company, in violation of federal law, published more than the last five digits of a credit or debit card number or an expiration date on customers' receipts. The Company denies the material allegations of the complaint. Its motion to dismiss was denied on July 13, 2016, but the Company continues to believe that the case is without merit and is not appropriate for class treatment. It intends to vigorously defend the matter. At this time however, it is not possible to predict whether the proceeding will be permitted to proceed as a class or the size of the putative class, and no assurance can be given that the Company will be successful in its defense on the merits or otherwise. Because the case is still in the early stages and class determinations have not been made, the Company is unable to estimate any potential loss or range of loss.

On July 28, 2016, the Company was named as a defendant in *Calleros v. Chico's FAS, Inc.*, a putative class action filed in the Superior Court of California, County of Santa Barbara. Plaintiff alleges that the Company failed to comply with California law requiring it to provide consumers cash for gift cards with a stored value of less than \$10.00. The Company is reviewing the factual allegations in the Complaint and is not yet able to ascertain the merit or the value of the claims asserted. On initial review, the Company believes that the matter is not appropriate for class treatment; however, it is not possible to predict whether it will be permitted to proceed as a class or the size of the putative class, and no assurance can be given that the Company will be successful in its defense of this action on the merits or otherwise. Because the case is in the very early stage and class determinations have not been made, the Company is unable to estimate any potential loss or range of loss.

Other than as noted above, we are not currently a party to any legal proceedings other than claims and lawsuits arising in the normal course of business. All such matters are subject to uncertainties and outcomes may not be predictable. Consequently, the ultimate aggregate amount of monetary liability or financial impact with respect to these matters as of July 30, 2016 are not estimable. However, while such matters could affect our consolidated operating results when resolved in future periods, management believes that upon final disposition, any monetary liability or financial impact to us would not be material to our annual consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents

ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS

In addition to the other information discussed in this report, the factors described in Part I, Item 1A. "Risk Factors" in our 2015 Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the SEC on March 8, 2016 should be considered as they could materially affect our business, financial condition or future results. Other than as noted below, there have not been any significant changes with respect to the risks described in our 2015 Form 10-K, but these are not the only risks facing our company. Additional risks and uncertainties not currently known to us or that we currently deem to be immaterial also may adversely affect our business, financial condition or operating results.

As discussed in Note 3 in our Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements, we are currently involved in significant strategic initiatives intended to increase the efficiency and productivity of our business processes. These initiatives require substantial internal change and effort, including reductions and changes in personnel and significant adjustments in how we design and source product and how we ultimately present it to our customers. While we are confident that these initiatives are appropriate for the long-term viability and success of our business, the process of implementing them places significant stress on the company and could result in unexpected short-term disruptions or negative impacts to our business, including, by way of example:

• Unintended loss of key personnel or unexpected delay in the hiring of personnel whose expertise is needed for the successful implementation of the initiatives.

• Disruption to our current business processes as we migrate to the new processes, or failure to successfully migrate to those new processes, which could negatively impact product flow, product quality or inventory levels.

• Inadvertent lapses or failures in our process, compliance or financial controls as we implement the new initiatives.

These negative impacts, or others, could adversely affect our business and results of operations. In addition, there is no assurance that we can complete the implementation of these initiatives in the manner or in the time-frame planned, or that, once implemented, they will result in the expected increases in the efficiency or productivity of our business. Failure to successfully implement them or their failure to produce the savings and productivity increases we anticipate could materially adversely affect our business and results of operations.

Table of Contents

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

The following table sets forth information concerning our purchases of common stock for the periods indicated (amounts in thousands, except share and per share amounts):

Period	Total Number of Shares Purchased (a)	Average Price Paid per Share	Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans (b)	Approximate Dollar Value of Shares that May Yet Be Purchased Under the Publicly Announced Plans
May 1, 2016 - May 28, 2016	1,700,751	\$ 11.59	1,696,670	\$ 203,706
May 29, 2016 - July 2, 2016	17,361	11.01	—	203,706
July 3, 2016 - July 30, 2016	—	—	—	203,706
Total	1,718,112	11.59	1,696,670	203,706

(a) Total number of shares purchased includes 21,442 shares of restricted stock repurchased in connection with employee tax withholding obligations under employee compensation plans, which are not purchases under any publicly announced plan.

(b) In November 2015, we announced a \$300.0 million share repurchase plan. There was approximately \$203.7 million remaining under the program as of the end of the second quarter. The repurchase program has no specific termination date and will expire when we have repurchased all securities authorized for repurchase thereunder, unless terminated earlier by our Board of Directors.

Table of Contents

ITEM 5. OTHER INFORMATION

On September 1, 2016, the Company approved an Amended and Restated Officer Severance Plan ("the Officer Severance Plan"), which consolidated the current separate Vice President Severance Plan and Executive Severance Plan into one plan document. Benefits under the Officer Severance Plan are unchanged except in the event of a Change in Control (as defined therein) in which case a second triggering event has been added and benefits enhanced, all as fully described in the Plan, included as Exhibit 10.62 to this Form 10-Q.

The foregoing description of the Officer Severance Plan is not complete and is qualified in its entirety by reference to the full text of such agreement included as Exhibit 10.62 to this Form 10-Q.

ITEM 6. EXHIBITS

(a) The following documents are filed as exhibits to this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q:

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Exhibit 3.3 | Composite Amended and Restated By-laws of Chico's FAS, Inc. |
| Exhibit 10.62 | Amended and Restated Officer Severance Plan |
| Exhibit 31.1 | Chico's FAS, Inc. and Subsidiaries Certification Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 - Chief Executive Officer |
| Exhibit 31.2 | Chico's FAS, Inc. and Subsidiaries Certification Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 - Chief Financial Officer |
| Exhibit 32.1 | Certification of Chief Executive Officer Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 |
| Exhibit 32.2 | Certification of Chief Financial Officer Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 |
| Exhibit 101.INS | XBRL Instance Document |
| Exhibit 101.SCH | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document |
| Exhibit 101.CAL | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document |
| Exhibit 101.DEF | XBRL Taxonomy Definition Linkbase Document |
| Exhibit 101.LAB | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document |
| Exhibit 101.PRE | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document |

Table of Contents

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.

CHICO'S FAS, INC.

Date: September 1, 2016 By: /s/ Shelley G. Broader
Shelley G. Broader
Chief Executive Officer, President and Director

Date: September 1, 2016 By: /s/ Todd E. Vogensen
Todd E. Vogensen
Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Assistant Corporate Secretary

Date: September 1, 2016 By: /s/ David M. Oliver
David M. Oliver
Group Vice President Finance - Controller, Chief Accounting Officer and Treasurer