

NEW YORK TIMES CO
Form 10-Q
November 07, 2008

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 quarterly period ended September 28, 2008

Commission file number 1-5837

THE NEW YORK TIMES COMPANY

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

NEW YORK
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

13-1102020
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

620 EIGHTH AVENUE, NEW YORK, NEW YORK

(Address of principal executive offices)

10018

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(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code **212-556-1234**

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes No .

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

Large accelerated filer Accelerated filer Non-accelerated filer Smaller reporting company .

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

Number of shares of each class of the registrant's common stock outstanding as of October 31, 2008 (exclusive of treasury shares):

| | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Class A Common Stock | 142,966,008 shares |
| Class B Common Stock | 825,634 shares |

PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Item 1. Financial StatementsTHE NEW YORK TIMES COMPANYCONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS

(Unaudited)

(In thousands, except per share data)

| | For the Quarters Ended | | For the Nine Months Ended | |
|--|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| | September 28, 2008 (13 weeks) | September 30, 2007 | September 28, 2008 (39 weeks) | September 30, 2007 |
| Revenues | | | | |
| Advertising | \$ 398,196 | \$ 465,043 | \$ 1,310,912 | \$ 1,478,425 |
| Circulation | 225,689 | 223,420 | 676,486 | 664,538 |
| Other | 63,157 | 65,896 | 189,404 | 186,359 |
| Total revenues | 687,042 | 754,359 | 2,176,802 | 2,329,322 |
| Operating costs | | | | |
| Production costs: | | | | |
| Raw materials | 62,645 | 58,643 | 182,006 | 196,678 |
| Wages and benefits | 148,183 | 163,367 | 473,695 | 487,810 |
| Other | 111,418 | 109,952 | 331,508 | 318,421 |
| Total production costs | 322,246 | 331,962 | 987,209 | 1,002,909 |
| Selling, general and administrative costs | 320,929 | 342,503 | 1,006,392 | 1,029,045 |
| Depreciation and amortization | 33,881 | 51,789 | 108,454 | 142,871 |
| Total operating costs | 677,056 | 726,254 | 2,102,055 | 2,174,825 |
| Impairment of assets | 160,430 | | 178,721 | |
| Net loss on sale of assets | | | | 68,156 |
| Gain on sale of WQEW-AM | | | | 39,578 |
| Operating (loss)/profit | (150,444) | 28,105 | (103,974) | 125,919 |
| Net income from joint ventures | 6,892 | 5,412 | 15,264 | 8,004 |
| Interest expense, net | 11,658 | 10,470 | 35,507 | 28,924 |
| (Loss)/income from continuing operations before income taxes and minority interest | (155,210) | 23,047 | (124,217) | 104,999 |
| Income tax (benefit)/expense | (40,360) | 8,991 | (30,801) | 48,741 |
| Minority interest in net (income)/loss of subsidiaries | (54) | 54 | (371) | 39 |
| (Loss)/income from continuing operations | (114,904) | 14,110 | (93,787) | 56,297 |
| Discontinued operations, Broadcast Media Group: | | | | |
| Income from discontinued operations, net of income taxes | | | | 5,753 |
| Gain/(loss) on sale, net of income taxes | 8,611 | (671) | 8,300 | 93,659 |
| Discontinued operations, net of income taxes | 8,611 | (671) | 8,300 | 99,412 |
| Net (loss)/income | \$ (106,293) | \$ 13,439 | \$ (85,487) | \$ 155,709 |

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| | | | | | | | |
|--|----|---------|----|---------|----|---------|----------|
| Average number of common shares outstanding | | | | | | | |
| Basic | | 143,782 | | 143,902 | | 143,773 | 143,901 |
| Diluted | | 143,782 | | 144,112 | | 143,773 | 144,057 |
| Basic (loss)/earnings per share: | | | | | | | |
| (Loss)/income from continuing operations | \$ | (0.80) | \$ | 0.10 | \$ | (0.65) | \$ 0.39 |
| Discontinued operations, net of income taxes | | 0.06 | | (0.01) | | 0.06 | 0.69 |
| Net (loss)/income | \$ | (0.74) | \$ | 0.09 | \$ | (0.59) | \$ 1.08 |
| Diluted (loss)/earnings per share: | | | | | | | |
| (Loss)/income from continued operations | \$ | (0.80) | \$ | 0.10 | \$ | (0.65) | \$ 0.39 |
| Discontinued operations, net of income taxes | | 0.06 | | (0.01) | | 0.06 | 0.69 |
| Net (loss)/income | \$ | (0.74) | \$ | 0.09 | \$ | (0.59) | \$ 1.08 |
| Dividends per share | \$ | 0.230 | \$ | 0.230 | \$ | 0.690 | \$ 0.635 |

See Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

THE NEW YORK TIMES COMPANY**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS**

(In thousands)

| | September 28, 2008 (Unaudited) | December 30, 2007 |
|---|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| <u>ASSETS</u> | | |
| <u>Current Assets</u> | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$ 45,848 | \$ 51,532 |
| Accounts receivable-net | 364,637 | 437,882 |
| Inventories: | | |
| Newsprint and magazine paper | 21,376 | 21,929 |
| Other inventory | 6,163 | 4,966 |
| Total inventories | 27,539 | 26,895 |
| Deferred income taxes | 80,617 | 92,335 |
| Other current assets | 58,637 | 55,801 |
| Total current assets | 577,278 | 664,445 |
| <u>Other Assets</u> | | |
| Investment in joint ventures | 146,150 | 137,831 |
| Property, plant and equipment (less accumulated depreciation and amortization of \$918,975 in 2008 and \$1,138,837 in 2007) | 1,354,796 | 1,468,013 |
| Intangible assets acquired: | | |
| Goodwill | 664,274 | 683,440 |
| Other intangible assets acquired | 72,963 | 128,461 |
| Total intangible assets acquired | 737,237 | 811,901 |
| Deferred income taxes | 150,637 | 112,379 |
| Miscellaneous assets | 255,597 | 278,523 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | \$ 3,221,695 | \$ 3,473,092 |

See Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

THE NEW YORK TIMES COMPANY**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS**

(In thousands, except share and per share data)

| | September 28, 2008 (Unaudited) | December 30, 2007 |
|--|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| <u>LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY</u> | | |
| <u>Current Liabilities</u> | | |
| Commercial paper outstanding | \$ | \$ 111,741 |
| Borrowings under revolving credit agreements | 397,850 | 195,000 |
| Accounts payable | 160,718 | 202,923 |
| Accrued payroll and other related liabilities | 100,195 | 142,201 |
| Accrued expenses | 158,510 | 193,222 |
| Unexpired subscriptions | 82,284 | 81,110 |
| Current portion of long-term debt and capital lease obligations | 49,549 | 49,539 |
| Total current liabilities | 949,106 | 975,736 |
| <u>Other Liabilities</u> | | |
| Long-term debt | 672,508 | 672,005 |
| Capital lease obligations | 6,650 | 6,694 |
| Pension benefits obligation | 284,281 | 281,517 |
| Postretirement benefits obligation | 214,424 | 213,500 |
| Other | 290,329 | 339,533 |
| Total other liabilities | 1,468,192 | 1,513,249 |
| Minority Interest | 7,325 | 5,907 |
| <u>Stockholders' Equity</u> | | |
| Common stock of \$.10 par value: | | |
| Class A authorized 300,000,000 shares; issued: 2008 148,057,158; 2007 148,057,158 (including treasury shares: 2008 5,091,299; 2007 5,154,989) | 14,806 | 14,806 |
| Class B convertible authorized and issued shares: 2008 825,634; 2007 825,634 | 83 | 83 |
| Additional paid-in-capital | 22,484 | 9,869 |
| Retained earnings | 975,989 | 1,170,288 |
| Common stock held in treasury, at cost | (160,178) | (161,395) |
| Accumulated other comprehensive loss, net of income taxes: | | |
| Foreign currency translation adjustments | 18,279 | 19,660 |
| Funded status of benefit plans | (74,391) | (75,111) |
| Total accumulated other comprehensive loss, net of income taxes | (56,112) | (55,451) |
| Total stockholders' equity | 797,072 | 978,200 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY | \$ 3,221,695 | \$ 3,473,092 |

See Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

THE NEW YORK TIMES COMPANY**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**

(Unaudited)

(In thousands)

| | Nine Months Ended | |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|
| | September 28, 2008 | September 30, 2007 |
| | (39 weeks) | |
| <u>OPERATING ACTIVITIES</u> | | |
| Net cash provided by operating activities | \$ 144,232 | \$ 29,074 |
| <u>INVESTING ACTIVITIES</u> | | |
| Capital expenditures | (134,067) | (301,176) |
| Proceeds from sale of the Broadcast Media Group | | 575,288 |
| Proceeds from the sale of WQEW-AM | | 40,000 |
| Proceeds from the sale of Edison, N.J., assets | | 90,819 |
| Payment for purchase of Edison N.J., printing facility | | (139,961) |
| Acquisitions, net of cash acquired of \$2,353 in 2008 and \$1,190 in 2007 | (5,737) | (34,087) |
| Other investing payments net | (2,309) | (3,169) |
| Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities | (142,113) | 227,714 |
| <u>FINANCING ACTIVITIES</u> | | |
| Commercial paper repayments-net | (111,741) | (330,587) |
| Borrowings under revolving credit agreements-net | 202,850 | 205,000 |
| Long-term obligations: | | |
| Reductions | (46) | (102,422) |
| Capital shares: | | |
| Issuances | | 529 |
| Repurchases | (70) | (2,040) |
| Excess tax benefits from stock-based awards | | 165 |
| Dividends paid to stockholders | (99,855) | (91,824) |
| Other financing proceeds net | | 44,769 |
| Net cash used in financing activities | (8,862) | (276,410) |
| Decrease in cash and cash equivalents | (6,743) | (19,622) |
| Effect of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents | 1,059 | 520 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year | 51,532 | 72,360 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the quarter | \$ 45,848 | \$ 53,258 |

SUPPLEMENTAL DATA

Acquisitions

- In March 2008, the Company acquired certain assets of the Winter Haven News Chief for \$2.5 million and purchased additional Class A units of BehNeem, LLC, increasing its total investment to \$4.3 million for a 53% ownership interest. In the first quarter of 2008, the Company also paid the remaining \$0.5 million for UCompareHealthCare.com, which was acquired in March 2007, for a total of \$2.3 million.

Other

- Financing activities Other financing proceeds in 2007 include cash received from the Company's real estate development partner for repayment of the Company's loan receivable in connection with the construction of the Company's new headquarters.

See Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

THE NEW YORK TIMES COMPANY

NOTES TO THE CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Unaudited)

NOTE 1. GENERAL AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

In the opinion of The New York Times Company's (the Company) management, the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements present fairly the financial position of the Company as of September 28, 2008, and December 30, 2007, and the results of operations and cash flows of the Company for the periods ended September 28, 2008, and September 30, 2007. All adjustments and reclassifications necessary for a fair presentation have been included and are of a normal and recurring nature. All significant intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation. The financial statements were prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission for interim reporting. As permitted under those rules, certain notes or other financial information that are normally required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) have been condensed or omitted from these interim financial statements. These statements, therefore, should be read in conjunction with the Consolidated Financial Statements and related Notes included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 30, 2007. Due to the seasonal nature of the Company's business, operating results for the interim periods are not necessarily indicative of a full year's operations. The fiscal periods included herein comprise 13 weeks for the third-quarter periods and 39 weeks for the nine-month periods.

As of September 28, 2008, the Company's significant accounting policies, which are detailed in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 30, 2007, have not changed materially.

The Company adopted Emerging Issues Task Force (EITF) No. 06-4, Accounting for Deferred Compensation and Postretirement Benefit Aspects of Endorsement Split-Dollar Life Insurance Arrangements (EITF 06-4), on December 31, 2007 (the first day of the Company's 2008 fiscal year). EITF 06-4 was issued to clarify the accounting for the deferred compensation and postretirement aspects of endorsement split-dollar life insurance arrangements. It required the Company to recognize a liability for future benefits in accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (FAS) No. 106, Employers' Accounting for Postretirement Benefits Other Than Pensions (FAS 106). Accordingly, the Company recorded a liability, which is included in Other Liabilities - Other in the Company's Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet, for its endorsement split-dollar life insurance arrangement of approximately \$9 million through a cumulative-effect adjustment to retained earnings on December 31, 2007.

In September 2006, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued FAS No. 157, Fair Value Measurements (FAS 157), which establishes a common definition for fair value in accordance with GAAP, and establishes a framework for measuring fair value and expands disclosure requirements about such fair value measurements.

In February 2008, the FASB issued FASB Staff Position (FSP) FAS 157-2, Effective Date of FASB Statement No. 157 (FSP 157-2). FSP 157-2 delayed the effective date of FAS 157 to fiscal years beginning after

November 15, 2008, for nonfinancial assets and nonfinancial liabilities, except for items that are recognized or disclosed at fair value in the financial statements on a recurring basis (at least annually). The partial delay is intended to provide all relevant parties more time to consider the effect of various implementation issues that have arisen, or that may arise, from the application of FAS 157.

In accordance with FSP 157-2, the Company partially adopted FAS 157 in the first quarter of 2008. Therefore, in 2008, the Company's financial statements will reflect the requirements of FAS 157 for any financial assets and liabilities and for any nonfinancial assets and liabilities recognized or disclosed at fair value in the financial statements on a recurring basis. As of September 28, 2008, the Company does not have any material nonfinancial assets or liabilities for which the requirements under FAS 157 were not applied because of the partial delay under FSP 157-2.

As of September 28, 2008, the Company does not have any assets measured at fair value that fall within the scope of FAS 157 and FSP 157-2. The Company does have a liability for a Company-sponsored deferred executive compensation plan (the DEC plan) that falls within the scope of FAS 157 and FSP 157-2, as of September 28, 2008. The DEC plan enables certain eligible executives to defer a portion of their compensation on a pre-tax basis. Employees' contributions earn income based on the performance of investment funds they select. The DEC plan liability is the amount due to the respective executives and is recorded at fair value on a recurring basis utilizing observable market data (Level 2 under FAS 157). The fair value of the liability, which is included in Other Liabilities - Other in the Company's Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet, was approximately \$119 million as of September 28, 2008.

In February 2007, the FASB issued FAS No. 159, The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities - Including an Amendment of FASB Statement No. 115 (FAS 159), which is effective in fiscal 2008 and permits entities to choose to measure many financial instruments and certain other items at fair value. The Company did not elect the fair value option for any items under FAS 159.

Recent Accounting Pronouncements

In December 2007, the FASB issued FAS No. 141(R), Business Combinations (FAS 141(R)) and FAS No. 160, Accounting and Reporting of Noncontrolling Interests in Consolidated Financial Statements, an amendment of Accounting Research Bulletin No. 51 (FAS 160). Changes for business combination transactions pursuant to FAS 141(R) include, among others, expensing acquisition-related transaction costs as incurred, the recognition of contingent consideration arrangements at their acquisition date fair value and capitalization of in-process research and development assets acquired at their acquisition date fair value. Changes in accounting for noncontrolling (minority) interests pursuant to FAS 160 include, among others, the classification of noncontrolling interest as a component of consolidated stockholders' equity and the elimination of minority interest accounting in results of operations. FAS 141(R) and FAS 160 are required to be adopted simultaneously and are effective for fiscal years beginning on or after December 15, 2008. The adoption of FAS 141(R) will affect the accounting for the Company's acquisitions that occur after the adoption date. Based on the Company's current structure, FAS 160 will be immaterial to the Company's financial statements.

NOTE 2. DISCONTINUED OPERATIONS

On May 7, 2007, the Company sold its Broadcast Media Group, which consisted of nine network-affiliated television stations, their related Web sites and a digital operating center, for approximately \$575 million. In 2007, the Company recognized a pre-tax gain on the sale of approximately \$190 million (approximately \$94 million after tax). In accordance with FAS No. 144, Accounting for the Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets (FAS 144), the Broadcast Media Group's results of operations and the gain on sale are presented as discontinued operations. Net income from discontinued operations of \$8.6 million in the third quarter of 2008 was due to a reduction in income taxes on the gain on the sale, and net loss from discontinued operations of \$0.7 million in the third quarter of 2007 was due to post-closing adjustments to the gain. The first nine months of 2008 also included post-closing adjustments to the gain on the sale. The results of operations presented as discontinued operations are summarized in the following table.

| (In thousands) | For the Quarters Ended | | For the Nine Months Ended | |
|--|------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| | September 28, 2008 | September 30, 2007 | September 28, 2008 | September 30, 2007 |
| Revenues | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ 46,702 |
| Operating costs | | | | 36,854 |
| Pre-tax income | | | | 9,848 |
| Income tax expense | | | | 4,095 |
| Income from discontinued operations, net of income taxes | | | | 5,753 |
| Gain/(loss) on sale, net of income taxes: | | | | |
| Gain/(loss) on sale, before taxes | (26) | (1,361) | (565) | 189,880 |
| Income tax (benefit)/expense | (8,637) | (690) | (8,865) | 96,221 |
| Gain/(loss) on sale, net of income taxes | 8,611 | (671) | 8,300 | 93,659 |
| Discontinued operations, net of income taxes | \$ 8,611 | \$ (671) | \$ 8,300 | \$ 99,412 |

NOTE 3. IMPAIRMENT OF ASSETS

In accordance with FAS No. 142, Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets (FAS 142), the Company is required to perform an impairment test on goodwill and indefinite-lived intangible assets (mastheads and trade names) annually or if certain circumstances indicate a possible impairment may exist. The Company's policy is to complete the required annual impairment test in accordance with FAS 142 in its fiscal fourth quarter. In accordance with FAS 144, other long-lived assets that are amortized (customer lists, property, plant and equipment and other assets) are required to be tested for impairment if certain circumstances indicate that a possible impairment may exist. Due to certain impairment indicators, including the continued decline in print advertising revenue affecting the newspaper industry and lower-than-expected current and projected operating results, the Company was required to perform an interim impairment test in the third quarter of 2008 at the New England Media Group. The New England Media Group, which principally includes the Boston Globe (the Globe), Boston.com and the Worcester Telegram & Gazette, is part of the News Media Group reportable segment. The assets tested include goodwill, indefinite-lived intangible assets, other long-lived assets being amortized and an equity method investment in Metro Boston LLC (Metro Boston), which publishes a free daily newspaper in the Greater Boston area.

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The Company has not finalized its interim impairment analysis due to the timing and complexity of the calculations required. However, the Company has recorded an estimated non-cash impairment charge in the third quarter of 2008 of \$166.0 million (\$112.8 million after tax, or \$.78 per share) based on calculations performed to date. Any adjustment to the estimate recorded will be made in the fourth quarter of 2008 when the Company finalizes the interim third-quarter 2008 impairment test.

The impairment charge in the third quarter of 2008, which is included in the line items Impairment of assets and Net income from joint ventures in the Company's 2008 Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations, is presented below by asset:

| (In thousands) | Pre-tax | Tax | After-tax |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Newspaper mastheads | \$ 38,312 | \$ 14,229 | \$ 24,083 |
| Goodwill | 22,897 | | 22,897 |
| Customer list | 8,336 | 3,086 | 5,250 |
| Property, plant and equipment | 90,885 | 33,809 | 57,076 |
| Impairment of assets | 160,430 | 51,124 | 109,306 |
| Metro Boston investment | 5,600 | 2,084 | 3,516 |
| Total | \$ 166,030 | \$ 53,208 | \$ 112,822 |

The impairment mainly resulted from lower projected operating results and cash flows of the New England Media Group primarily due to the secular decline of print advertising revenue. These factors resulted in the carrying value of the assets being greater than their fair value, and therefore a write-down to fair value was required.

Goodwill is the excess of cost over the fair market value of tangible and other intangible assets acquired. The fair value of the New England Media Group's goodwill is the residual fair value after allocating the total fair value of the New England Media Group to its other assets, net of liabilities. The total fair value of the New England Media Group was estimated using a combination of a discounted cash flow model (present value of future cash flows) and a market approach model based on comparable businesses. The goodwill is not tax deductible because the 1993 acquisition of the Globe was structured as a tax-free stock transaction.

The fair value of the mastheads was calculated using a relief-from-royalty method and the fair value of the customer list was calculated by estimating the present value of associated future cash flows.

The property, plant and equipment of the New England Media Group has been estimated at fair value less cost to sell. The fair value was determined giving consideration to market and income approaches to value.

The carrying value of the investment in Metro Boston was written down to fair value because the business had experienced lower-than-expected growth and it anticipates lower growth compared to previous projections, leading the Company to conclude that the investment was other than temporarily impaired.

In connection with its required annual impairment test, the Company will test goodwill and indefinite-lived intangible assets in all other reporting units in the fourth quarter of 2008. Any impairment resulting from these tests would be recorded in the fourth quarter of 2008.

In the first quarter of 2008, the Company recorded a non-cash charge of \$18.3 million for the write-down of assets for a systems project at the News Media Group. The Company reduced the scope of a major advertising and circulation project to decrease capital spending, which resulted in the write-down of previously capitalized costs.

NOTE 4. GOODWILL AND OTHER INTANGIBLE ASSETS

See Note 3 for information on an interim impairment test performed in the third quarter of 2008.

The changes in the carrying amount of goodwill were as follows:

| (In thousands) | News Media Group | | About Group | | Total | |
|--|---------------------|----------|----------------|---------|-------|----------|
| Balance as of December 30, 2007 | \$ | 313,459 | \$ | 369,981 | \$ | 683,440 |
| Goodwill acquired during year | | 4,416 | | | | 4,416 |
| Goodwill adjusted during the year | | | | (3) | | (3) |
| Foreign currency translation adjustments | | (682) | | | | (682) |
| Impairment (see Note 3) | | (22,897) | | | | (22,897) |
| Balance as of September 28, 2008 | \$ | 294,296 | \$ | 369,978 | \$ | 664,274 |

In March 2008, the Company acquired certain assets of the Winter Haven News Chief (News Chief), a regional newspaper in Winter Haven, Fla., for \$2.5 million. Also in March 2008, the Company purchased additional Class A units of BehNeem, LLC (BehNeem), increasing its total investment to \$4.3 million for a 53% ownership interest. BehNeem licenses the Epsilon Environment, an integrated online course content, portfolio and communications tool for the education community. The operating results of the News Chief are included in the results of the Regional Media Group, and the operating results of BehNeem are included in the results of The New York Times Media Group, both of which are part of the News Media Group.

Based on valuations of the News Chief and BehNeem, the Company has allocated the excess of the respective purchase prices over the carrying value of the net assets acquired of \$1.3 million to goodwill and \$0.6 million to other intangible assets (primarily customer lists) for the News Chief, and \$3.1 million to goodwill for BehNeem.

Other intangible assets acquired were as follows:

| (In thousands) | September 28, 2008 | | | December 30, 2007 | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|
| | Gross Carrying Amount | Accumulated Amortization | Net | Gross Carrying Amount | Accumulated Amortization | Net |
| Amortized other intangible assets: | | | | | | |
| Customer lists | \$ 28,407 | \$ (16,738) | \$ 11,669 | \$ 222,267 | \$ (199,930) | \$ 22,337 |
| Other | 62,434 | (34,408) | 28,026 | 67,254 | (32,841) | 34,413 |
| Total | 90,841 | (51,146) | 39,695 | 289,521 | (232,771) | 56,750 |

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| | | | | | | | |
|--|------------|-------------|-----------|------------|--------------|------------|--|
| Unamortized other intangible assets: | | | | | | | |
| Newspaper mastheads | 19,186 | | 19,186 | 57,638 | | 57,638 | |
| Trade names | 14,082 | | 14,082 | 14,073 | | 14,073 | |
| Total | 33,268 | | \$ 33,268 | 71,711 | | 71,711 | |
| Total other intangible assets acquired | \$ 124,109 | \$ (51,146) | \$ 72,963 | \$ 361,232 | \$ (232,771) | \$ 128,461 | |

See Note 3 for additional information on an impairment of assets in the third quarter of 2008.

As of September 28, 2008, the remaining weighted-average amortization period was seven years for customer lists and six years for other amortizable intangible assets acquired included in the table above.

Amortization expense related to other intangible assets acquired that are subject to amortization was approximately \$9 million in the first nine months of 2008, and is expected to be approximately \$11 million for the fiscal year 2008. Estimated annual amortization expense for the next five years related to these intangible assets is expected to be as follows:

| (In thousands) | |
|----------------|----------|
| Year | Amount |
| 2009 | \$ 8,600 |
| 2010 | \$ 8,100 |
| 2011 | \$ 7,600 |
| 2012 | \$ 5,300 |
| 2013 | \$ 2,100 |

NOTE 5. DEBT OBLIGATIONS

The Company's total debt, including borrowings under revolving credit agreements and capital lease obligations, was \$1.1 billion as of September 28, 2008, and including these items and commercial paper, was \$1.0 billion as of December 30, 2007.

The Company's \$800.0 million revolving credit agreements (\$400.0 million credit agreement maturing in May 2009 and \$400.0 million credit agreement maturing in June 2011) are used for general corporate purposes. In addition, these revolving credit agreements provide a facility for the issuance of letters of credit. Any borrowings under the revolving credit agreements bear interest at specified margins based on the Company's credit rating, over various floating rates selected by the Company. The amount available under the Company's revolving credit agreements is summarized in the following table.

| (In thousands) | September 28, 2008 | December 30, 2007 |
|--|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Revolving credit agreements | \$ 800,000 | \$ 800,000 |
| Less: | | |
| Amount outstanding under revolving credit agreements (weighted average interest rate of 3.1% as of September 28, 2008 and 5.3% as of December 30, 2007) | 397,850 | 195,000 |
| Letters of credit | 35,885 | 24,757 |
| Amount available under revolving credit agreements(1) | \$ 366,265 | \$ 580,243 |

(1) Amount available under the revolving credit agreements also supports the Company's commercial paper program, of which \$111.7 million was outstanding as of December 30, 2007.

The revolving credit agreements each contain a covenant that requires a specified level of stockholders' equity, which, as defined by the agreements, does not include accumulated other comprehensive loss and excludes the impact of non-cash impairment charges. The required levels of stockholders' equity (as defined by the agreements) is the sum of \$950.0 million plus an amount equal to 25% of net income for each fiscal year ending after December 28, 2003 for which net income is positive. As of September 28, 2008, the amount of stockholders' equity in excess of the required levels was approximately \$564 million.

The Company did not have commercial paper outstanding as of September 28, 2008 and had \$111.7 million outstanding as of December 30, 2007, with an annual weighted-average interest rate of 5.5% and an average of 10 days to maturity from original issuance.

Interest expense, net in the Company's Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations was as follows:

| (In thousands) | For the Quarters Ended | | For the Nine Months Ended | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| | September 28, 2008 | September 30, 2007 | September 28, 2008 | September 30, 2007 |
| Interest expense | \$ 12,222 | \$ 13,276 | \$ 37,631 | \$ 45,585 |
| Capitalized interest | (515) | (1,594) | (1,977) | (13,717) |
| Interest income | (49) | (1,212) | (147) | (2,944) |
| Interest expense, net | \$ 11,658 | \$ 10,470 | \$ 35,507 | \$ 28,924 |

NOTE 6. INCOME TAXES

The income tax benefit for the third quarter and first nine months of 2008 was \$40.4 million and \$30.8 million, respectively, compared with an income tax expense of \$9.0 million and \$48.7 million for the third quarter and first nine months of 2007. The Company's effective income tax rate was 26.0% in the third quarter and 24.8% in the first nine months of 2008 compared with 39.0% in the third quarter and 46.4% in the first nine months of 2007.

In 2008, the effective income tax rates were low because the goodwill portion of the non-cash impairment charge and losses on investments in corporate-owned life insurance policies were non-deductible for tax purposes and a change in Massachusetts state tax law had an unfavorable effect. In 2007, the effective income tax rates were affected by the asset sales in the second quarter of 2007 (see Notes 2 and 8) and an unfavorable tax adjustment for a change in New York State tax law.

NOTE 7. PENSION AND POSTRETIREMENT BENEFITS

See Note 13 for changes made to the Company's pension and postretirement benefits in the fourth quarter of 2008.

Pension

Acquisitions

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The Company sponsors several pension plans, participates in The New York Times Newspaper Guild pension plan, a joint Company and Guild-sponsored plan, and makes contributions to several other plans, in connection with collective bargaining agreements, that are considered multi-employer pension plans. These plans cover substantially all employees.

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The Company-sponsored plans include qualified (funded) plans as well as non-qualified (unfunded) plans. These plans provide participating employees with retirement benefits in accordance with benefit formulas detailed in each plan. The Company's non-qualified plans provide retirement benefits only to certain highly compensated employees of the Company.

The Company also has a foreign-based pension plan for certain International Herald Tribune (IHT) employees (the Foreign plan). The information for the Foreign plan is combined with the information for U.S. non-qualified plans. The benefit obligation of the Foreign plan is immaterial to the Company's total benefit obligation.

The components of net periodic pension cost of all Company-sponsored plans and The New York Times Newspaper Guild pension plan were as follows:

| (In thousands) | For the Quarters Ended | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|-----------|--------------------|---------------------|-----------|
| | September 28, 2008 | | | September 30, 2007 | | |
| | Qualified Plans | Non-Qualified Plans | All Plans | Qualified Plans | Non-Qualified Plans | All Plans |
| Service cost | \$ 10,110 | \$ 710 | \$ 10,820 | \$ 11,403 | \$ 519 | \$ 11,922 |
| Interest cost | 25,078 | 3,463 | 28,541 | 23,500 | 3,574 | 27,074 |
| Expected return on plan assets | (31,915) | | (31,915) | (30,335) | | (30,335) |
| Amortization of prior service cost | 462 | 17 | 479 | 360 | 18 | 378 |
| Recognized actuarial loss | 729 | 1,238 | 1,967 | 1,571 | 1,982 | 3,553 |
| Net periodic pension cost | \$ 4,464 | \$ 5,428 | \$ 9,892 | \$ 6,499 | \$ 6,093 | \$ 12,592 |

| (In thousands) | For the Nine Months Ended | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|-----------|--------------------|---------------------|-----------|
| | September 28, 2008 | | | September 30, 2007 | | |
| | Qualified Plans | Non-Qualified Plans | All Plans | Qualified Plans | Non-Qualified Plans | All Plans |
| Service cost | \$ 30,330 | \$ 2,130 | \$ 32,460 | \$ 34,210 | \$ 1,557 | \$ 35,767 |
| Interest cost | 75,234 | 10,389 | 85,623 | 70,501 | 10,722 | 81,223 |
| Expected return on plan assets | (95,745) | | (95,745) | (91,006) | | (91,006) |
| Amortization of prior service cost | 1,186 | 51 | 1,237 | 1,082 | 53 | 1,135 |
| Recognized actuarial loss | 2,187 | 3,714 | 5,901 | 4,715 | 5,947 | 10,662 |
| Effect of curtailment | | | | 15 | | 15 |
| Special termination benefits | | | | | 908 | 908 |
| Net periodic pension cost | \$ 13,192 | \$ 16,284 | \$ 29,476 | \$ 19,517 | \$ 19,187 | \$ 38,704 |

Recent declines in domestic and foreign equity markets have negatively affected the year-to-date returns on the Company's pension plan assets. The Company completes an annual valuation of its pension plans as of its fiscal year-end. If markets do not recover by this valuation date, the lower asset values will result in charges to comprehensive (loss)/income, will likely increase pension expense in the next fiscal year, and could lead to greater cash contributions in future years.

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The Company does not have any quarterly funding requirements for Company-sponsored pension plans in 2008 (under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended, and Internal Revenue Code requirements), although it will make contractual funding contributions of \$16.5 million (approximately \$8 million was made in the first nine months of 2008) for The New York Times Newspaper Guild pension plan. The Company is currently evaluating the amount of its pension funding for

the remainder of 2008 in light of recent market performance and may make a discretionary contribution in the fourth quarter of 2008. The Company currently expects that pension contributions will not be required in 2009, due to funding credits accrued from contributions in prior years, but will continue to assess whether to make discretionary contributions after considering the funded status of its plans, movements in discount rate, investment performance and other factors.

Postretirement Benefits

The Company provides health and life insurance benefits to retired employees and their eligible dependents, who are not covered by any collective bargaining agreements, if the employees meet specified age and service requirements. In addition, the Company contributes to a postretirement plan under the provisions of a collective bargaining agreement. The Company's policy is to pay its portion of insurance premiums and claims from Company assets.

In accordance with FAS 106, the Company accrues the costs of postretirement benefits during the employees' active years of service.

The components of net periodic postretirement benefit cost were as follows:

| (In thousands) | For the Quarters Ended | | For the Nine Months Ended | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| | September 28, 2008 | September 30, 2007 | September 28, 2008 | September 30, 2007 |
| Service cost | \$ 881 | \$ 2,022 | \$ 2,643 | \$ 6,066 |
| Interest cost | 3,514 | 3,748 | 10,542 | 11,246 |
| Amortization of prior service cost | (2,908) | (1,983) | (8,724) | (5,949) |
| Recognized actuarial loss | 1,041 | 785 | 3,123 | 2,354 |
| Effect of curtailment | | | | (4,717) |
| Special termination benefits | | | | 703 |
| Net periodic postretirement cost | \$ 2,528 | \$ 4,572 | \$ 7,584 | \$ 9,703 |

NOTE 8. OTHER

City & Suburban Closure

In September 2008, the Company announced the shutdown of City & Suburban (C&S), its retail and newsstand distribution subsidiary, which distributes The New York Times (The Times) and other publications in the New York metropolitan area. Going forward, The Times will be distributed to newsstands and retail outlets through a combination of third-party wholesalers and the Company's own drivers. Approximately 550 full-time equivalent employees will be affected by the closure. The closure of C&S is expected to be completed in January 2009. The primary cost to close C&S is severance costs, of which approximately \$9 million was recorded in the third quarter of 2008. The Company expects to incur additional severance costs and may incur a charge related to the abandonment of various leased properties.

Plant Closing - Billerica, Mass.

In September 2008, the Company announced that it plans to close its printing plant in Billerica, Mass., and consolidate the printing of the Globe into its main printing plant in Dorchester, Mass. While the exact timing of the closing has not yet been set, it is expected to occur in the second half of 2009. The plant is being closed because the Company no longer needs as many presses to print all copies of the Globe. The cost savings and one-time costs related to the closing and the capital expenditures related to the consolidation cannot be estimated at this time because this information is dependent on ongoing negotiations with labor unions and certain production decisions not yet made. Certain property, plant and equipment located at the Billerica plant was impaired and a related write-down is included within the Company's total New England Media Group impairment charge (see Note 3).

Severance Costs

The Company recognized severance costs of \$18.1 million in the third quarter of 2008 and \$56.9 million in the first nine months of 2008. In the third quarter and first nine months of 2007, the Company recognized severance costs of \$4.9 million and \$17.6 million, respectively. Most of the costs in these periods were recognized at the News Media Group. These costs are primarily recorded in Selling, general and administrative costs in the Company's Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations. As of September 28, 2008, the Company had a severance liability of approximately \$32 million included in Accrued expenses in the Company's Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet.

Plant Consolidation

In 2006, the Company announced plans to consolidate the printing operations of a facility it leased in Edison, N.J., into its newest facility in College Point, N.Y. As part of the consolidation, the Company purchased the Edison facility and then sold it, with two adjacent properties it already owned, to a third party. The purchase and sale of the Edison facility closed in the second quarter of 2007, relieving the Company of rental terms that were above market as well as certain restoration obligations under the original lease. As a result of the sale, the Company recognized a pre-tax loss of \$68.2 million (\$41.3 million after tax) in the second quarter of 2007.

The Edison facility was closed in March 2008. The costs to close the Edison facility were approximately \$89 million, principally consisting of accelerated depreciation charges (approximately \$69 million), severance costs (approximately \$15 million) and plant restoration costs (approximately \$5 million).

Sale of WOEW-AM

On April 26, 2007, the Company sold WOEW-AM to Radio Disney, LLC (which had been providing substantially all of WOEW-AM programming through a time brokerage agreement) for \$40 million. The Company recognized a pre-tax gain of \$39.6 million (\$21.2 million after tax) in the second quarter of 2007.

NOTE 9. EARNINGS PER SHARE

Basic and diluted earnings per share have been computed as follows:

| (In thousands, except per share data) | For the Quarters Ended | | For the Nine Months Ended | |
|---|------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| | September 28, 2008 | September 30, 2007 | September 28, 2008 | September 30, 2007 |
| Basic (loss)/earnings per share computation: | | | | |
| Numerator | | | | |
| (Loss)/income from continuing operations | \$ (114,904) | \$ 14,110 | \$ (93,787) | \$ 56,297 |
| Discontinued operations, net of income taxes | | | | |
| Broadcast Media Group | 8,611 | (671) | 8,300 | 99,412 |
| Net (loss)/income | \$ (106,293) | \$ 13,439 | \$ (85,487) | \$ 155,709 |
| Denominator | | | | |
| Average number of common shares outstanding | 143,782 | 143,902 | 143,773 | 143,901 |
| (Loss)/income from continuing operations | \$ (0.80) | \$ 0.10 | \$ (0.65) | \$ 0.39 |
| Discontinued operations, net of income taxes | | | | |
| Broadcast Media Group | 0.06 | (0.01) | 0.06 | 0.69 |
| Basic (loss)/earnings per share | \$ (0.74) | \$ 0.09 | \$ (0.59) | \$ 1.08 |
| Diluted (loss)/earnings per share computation: | | | | |
| Numerator | | | | |
| (Loss)/income from continuing operations | \$ (114,904) | \$ 14,110 | \$ (93,787) | \$ 56,297 |
| Discontinued operations, net of income taxes | | | | |
| Broadcast Media Group | 8,611 | (671) | 8,300 | 99,412 |
| Net (loss)/income | \$ (106,293) | \$ 13,439 | \$ (85,487) | \$ 155,709 |
| Denominator | | | | |
| Average number of common shares outstanding | 143,782 | 143,902 | 143,773 | 143,901 |
| Incremental share for assumed exercise of securities | | 210 | | 156 |
| Total shares | 143,782 | 144,112 | 143,773 | 144,057 |
| (Loss)/income from continuing operations | \$ (0.80) | \$ 0.10 | \$ (0.65) | \$ 0.39 |
| Discontinued operations, net of income taxes | | | | |
| Broadcast Media Group | 0.06 | (0.01) | 0.06 | 0.69 |
| Diluted (loss)/earnings per share | \$ (0.74) | \$ 0.09 | \$ (0.59) | \$ 1.08 |

The difference between basic and diluted shares is generally due to the assumed exercise of stock options and the assumed vesting of restricted stock units included in diluted shares.

In 2008, a nominal number of potential common shares were not included in diluted shares because of their antidilutive effect as a result of the loss from continuing operations.

Stock options with exercise prices that exceeded the average fair market value of the Company's Common Stock had an antidilutive effect and, therefore, were excluded from diluted shares. Approximately 32 million stock options with exercise prices ranging from \$13.03 to \$48.54 were excluded from the computation in the third quarter and first nine months of 2008. Approximately 32 million stock options with exercise prices ranging from \$22.23 to \$48.54 were excluded from the computation in the third quarter and first nine months of 2007.

NOTE 10. COMPREHENSIVE (LOSS)/INCOME

Comprehensive (loss)/income was as follows:

| (In thousands) | For the Quarters Ended | | For the Nine Months Ended | |
|--|------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| | September 28, 2008 | September 30, 2007 | September 28, 2008 | September 30, 2007 |
| Net (loss)/income | \$ (106,293) | \$ 13,439 | \$ (85,487) | \$ 155,709 |
| Foreign currency translation adjustments | (10,559) | 7,074 | (1,892) | 10,676 |
| Adjustments to pension and postretirement benefits obligations | | 49,517 | | 106,228 |
| Amortization of unrecognized amounts included in pension and postretirement benefits obligations | 579 | 2,733 | 1,537 | 3,500 |
| Income tax charge/(benefit) | 4,149 | (28,805) | (307) | (67,948) |
| Comprehensive (loss)/income | \$ (112,124) | \$ 43,958 | \$ (86,149) | \$ 208,165 |

The Accumulated other comprehensive loss, net of income taxes in the Company's Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets was net of a deferred income tax benefit of approximately \$53 million as of September 28, 2008 and December 30, 2007.

NOTE 11. SEGMENT INFORMATION

The Company's reportable segments consist of the News Media Group and the About Group. These segments are evaluated regularly by management in assessing performance and allocating resources.

Below is a description of the Company's reportable segments:

News Media Group (consisting of The New York Times Media Group, which principally includes The Times, NYTimes.com, the IHT and WQXR-FM; the New England Media Group, which principally includes the Globe, Boston.com and the Worcester Telegram & Gazette; and the Regional Media Group, which includes 15 daily newspapers, other print publications and their related digital operations); and

About Group (consisting of the Web sites of About.com, ConsumerSearch.com, UCompareHealthCare.com and Caloriecount.about.com).

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The Broadcast Media Group, which was sold on May 7, 2007, is classified as a discontinued operation and is no longer included as a reportable segment (see Note 2).

| (In thousands) | For the Quarters Ended | | For the Nine Months Ended | |
|---|------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| | September 28, 2008 | September 30, 2007 | September 28, 2008 | September 30, 2007 |
| REVENUES | | | | |
| News Media Group | \$ 658,336 | \$ 729,635 | \$ 2,091,314 | \$ 2,257,350 |
| About Group | 28,706 | 24,724 | 85,488 | 71,972 |
| Total | \$ 687,042 | \$ 754,359 | \$ 2,176,802 | \$ 2,329,322 |
| OPERATING (LOSS)/PROFIT | | | | |
| News Media Group(1) | \$ (153,340) | \$ 33,136 | \$ (95,583) | \$ 139,418 |
| About Group | 10,784 | 6,291 | 29,421 | 23,132 |
| Corporate | (7,888) | (11,322) | (37,812) | (36,631) |
| Total | \$ (150,444) | \$ 28,105 | \$ (103,974) | \$ 125,919 |
| Net income from joint ventures(1) | 6,892 | 5,412 | 15,264 | 8,004 |
| Interest expense, net | 11,658 | 10,470 | 35,507 | 28,924 |
| (Loss)/income from continuing operations before income taxes and minority interest | (155,210) | 23,047 | (124,217) | 104,999 |
| Income tax (benefit)/expense | (40,360) | 8,991 | (30,801) | 48,741 |
| Minority interest in net (income)/loss of subsidiaries | (54) | 54 | (371) | 39 |
| (Loss)/income from continuing operations | (114,904) | 14,110 | (93,787) | 56,297 |
| Discontinued operations, Broadcast Media Group: | | | | |
| Income from discontinued operations, net of income taxes | | | | 5,753 |
| Gain/(loss) on sale, net of income taxes | 8,611 | (671) | 8,300 | 93,659 |
| Discontinued operations, net of income taxes | 8,611 | (671) | 8,300 | 99,412 |
| Net (loss)/income | \$ (106,293) | \$ 13,439 | \$ (85,487) | \$ 155,709 |

(1) A non-cash charge of \$166.0 million was recorded for the impairment of assets (\$160.4 million affecting operating profit) and an equity method investment (\$5.6 million affecting net income from joint ventures) in the third quarter of 2008. Operating profit in the first quarter of 2008 included a non-cash charge of \$18.3 million for the impairment of assets for a systems project. Operating profit for the first nine months of 2007 included a \$68.2 million net loss from the sale of assets and \$39.6 million gain from the sale of WQEW-AM.

NOTE 12. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

Third-Party Guarantees

The Company has outstanding guarantees on behalf of a third party that provides circulation customer service, telemarketing and home-delivery services for The Times and the Globe, and on behalf of two third parties that provide printing and distribution services for The Times's National Edition. The guarantees are for payments under a credit facility and property and equipment leases, and for certain debt and costs related to any default. The total amount of the guarantees was approximately \$26 million as of September 28, 2008. In accordance with GAAP, the contingent obligations related to these guarantees are not reflected in the Company's Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets as of September 28, 2008 and December 30, 2007.

Other

The Company also has letters of credit of approximately \$36 million as of September 28, 2008, which are primarily to satisfy requirements by insurance companies, to provide support for the Company's workers' compensation liability. The workers' compensation liability (approximately \$48 million) is included in the Company's Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet as of September 28, 2008.

There are various legal actions that have arisen in the ordinary course of business and are now pending against the Company. These actions are generally for amounts greatly in excess of the payments, if any, that may be required to be made. It is the opinion of management after reviewing these actions with legal counsel to the Company that the ultimate liability that might result from these actions would not have a material adverse effect on the Company's Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

NOTE 13. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

On October 22, 2008, the Company adopted amendments to a number of its retirement plans for non-union employees. First, the Company decreased the benefit formula for pension benefits for all active non-union employees, effective January 1, 2009. Additionally, the Company amended its retiree medical plan to eliminate post-age 65 retiree medical benefits for all employees who retire on or after March 1, 2009. The Company currently plans to continue to offer pre-age 65 retiree medical coverage to employees who take early retirement on or after March 1, 2009, and meet the retiree medical eligibility requirements, until they become Medicare eligible.

The Company expects the pension and retiree medical plan changes to result in savings of approximately \$24 million in 2009 and to reduce its pension benefits obligation by approximately \$70 million and its postretirement benefits obligation by approximately \$20 million.

Additionally, the Company is increasing the match on employee contributions to the non-union defined contribution plan, effective January 1, 2009, to up to 5% from 3%. The Company expects additional expense of approximately \$6 million based on current employee participation.

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

We are a leading media and news organization serving our audiences through print, online, mobile and radio technology. Our segments and divisions are:

News Media Group (consisting of *The New York Times Media Group*, which principally includes *The New York Times* (*The Times*), *NYTimes.com*, the *International Herald Tribune* and *WQXR-FM*; the *New England Media Group*, which principally includes *The Boston Globe* (the *Globe*), *Boston.com* and the *Worcester Telegram & Gazette*; and the *Regional Media Group*, which includes 15 daily newspapers, other print publications and their related digital operations). The News Media Group generates revenues principally from print, online and radio advertising and through circulation. Other revenues, which make up the remainder of revenues, primarily consist of revenues from news services/syndication, commercial printing, digital archives, direct mail advertising services, rental income and wholesale delivery operations, which we expect to close in January 2009 as discussed below. The News Media Group's main operating costs are employee-related costs and raw materials, primarily newsprint.

About Group (consisting of the Web sites of *About.com*, *ConsumerSearch.com*, *UCompareHealthCare.com* and *Caloriecount.about.com*). The About Group principally generates revenues from cost-per-click advertising (sponsored links for which the About Group is paid when a user clicks on the ad), display advertising that is relevant to its adjacent content, and e-commerce (including sales lead generation). Almost all of its revenues (93% in the first nine months of 2008) are derived from the sale of advertisements (cost-per-click and display advertising). Cost-per-click advertising accounts for 56% of the About Group's total advertising revenues. The About Group's main operating costs are employee-related costs and content and hosting costs.

Joint Ventures Our investments accounted for under the equity method are as follows:

- a 49% interest in Metro Boston LLC (*Metro Boston*), which publishes a free daily newspaper in the Greater Boston area,
- a 49% interest in a Canadian newsprint company, Donohue Malbaie Inc.,
- a 40% interest in a partnership, Madison Paper Industries, operating a supercalendered paper mill in Maine,
- a 25% interest (acquired in 2008 for a nominal amount) in quadrantONE LLC, a consortium online advertising network that sells bundled premium, targeted display advertising from local newspaper Web sites and

Other

other affiliates, and

- an approximately 17.5% interest in New England Sports Ventures, which owns the Boston Red Sox, Fenway Park and adjacent real estate, approximately 80% of the New England Sports Network, a regional cable sports network, and 50% of Roush Fenway Racing, a leading NASCAR team.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS**Impairment of Assets**

In accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (FAS) No. 142, Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets (FAS 142), we are required to perform an impairment test on goodwill and indefinite-lived intangible assets (mastheads and trade names) annually or if certain circumstances indicate a possible impairment may exist. Our policy is to complete the required annual impairment test in accordance with FAS 142 in our fiscal fourth quarter. In accordance with FAS No. 144, Accounting for the Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets, other long-lived assets that are amortized (customer lists, property, plant and equipment and other assets) are required to be tested for impairment if certain circumstances indicate that a possible impairment may exist. Due to certain impairment indicators, including the continued decline in print advertising revenue affecting the newspaper industry and lower-than-expected current and projected operating results, we were required to perform an interim impairment test in the third quarter of 2008 at the New England Media Group. The assets tested include goodwill, indefinite-lived intangible assets, other long-lived assets being amortized and an equity method investment in Metro Boston.

We have not finalized our interim impairment analysis due to the timing and complexity of the calculations required. However, we have recorded an estimated non-cash impairment charge in the third quarter of 2008 of \$166.0 million (\$112.8 million after tax, or \$.78 per share) based on calculations performed to date. Any adjustment to the estimate recorded will be made in the fourth quarter of 2008 when we finalize the interim third-quarter 2008 impairment test.

The impairment charge in the third quarter of 2008, which is included in the line items Impairment of assets and Net income from joint ventures in our 2008 Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations, is presented below by asset:

| (In thousands) | Pre-tax | Tax | After-tax |
|-------------------------------|------------|-----------|------------|
| Newspaper mastheads | \$ 38,312 | \$ 14,229 | \$ 24,083 |
| Goodwill | 22,897 | | 22,897 |
| Customer list | 8,336 | 3,086 | 5,250 |
| Property, plant and equipment | 90,885 | 33,809 | 57,076 |
| Impairment of assets | 160,430 | 51,124 | 109,306 |
| Metro Boston investment | 5,600 | 2,084 | 3,516 |
| Total | \$ 166,030 | \$ 53,208 | \$ 112,822 |

The impairment mainly resulted from lower projected operating results and cash flows of the New England Media Group primarily due to the secular decline of print advertising revenue. These factors resulted in the carrying value of the assets being greater than their fair value, and therefore a write-down to fair value was required.

Goodwill is the excess of cost over the fair market value of tangible and other intangible assets acquired. The fair value of the New England Media Group's goodwill is the residual fair value after allocating the total fair value of the New England Media Group to its other assets, net of liabilities. The total fair value of the New England

Media Group was estimated using a combination of a discounted cash flow model (present value of future cash flows) and a market approach model based on comparable businesses. The goodwill is not tax deductible because the 1993 acquisition of the Globe was structured as a tax-free stock transaction.

The fair value of the mastheads was calculated using a relief-from-royalty method and the fair value of the customer list was calculated by estimating the present value of associated future cash flows.

The property, plant and equipment of the New England Media Group has been estimated at fair value less cost to sell. The fair value was determined giving consideration to market and income approaches to value.

The carrying value of our investment in Metro Boston was written down to fair value because the business had experienced lower-than-expected growth and we anticipate lower growth compared to previous projections, leading us to conclude that our investment was other than temporarily impaired.

In connection with our required annual impairment test, we will test goodwill and indefinite-lived intangible assets in all other reporting units in the fourth quarter of 2008. Any impairment resulting from these tests would be recorded in the fourth quarter of 2008.

In the first quarter of 2008, we recorded a non-cash charge of \$18.3 million for the write-down of assets for a systems project at the News Media Group. We reduced the scope of a major advertising and circulation project to decrease capital spending, which resulted in the write-down of previously capitalized costs.

Retirement Plans Amendments

On October 22, 2008, we adopted amendments to a number of our retirement plans for non-union employees. First, we decreased the benefit formula for pension benefits for all active non-union employees, effective January 1, 2009. Additionally, we amended our retiree medical plan to eliminate post-age 65 retiree medical benefits for all employees who retire on or after March 1, 2009. We currently plan to continue to offer pre-age 65 retiree medical coverage to employees who take early retirement on or after March 1, 2009, and meet the retiree medical eligibility requirements, until they become Medicare eligible.

We expect the pension and retiree medical plan changes to result in savings of approximately \$24 million in 2009 and to reduce our pension benefits obligation by approximately \$70 million and our postretirement benefits obligation by approximately \$20 million.

Additionally, we are increasing the match on employee contributions to the non-union defined contribution plan, effective January 1, 2009, to up to 5% from 3%. We expect additional expense of approximately \$6 million based on current employee participation.

City & Suburban Closure

In September 2008, we announced the shutdown of City & Suburban (C&S), our retail and newsstand distribution subsidiary, which distributes The Times and other publications in the New York metropolitan area. Going forward, The Times will be distributed to newsstands and retail outlets through a combination of third-party wholesalers and our own drivers. Approximately 550 full-time equivalent employees will be affected by the closure. The closure of C&S is expected to be completed in January 2009. The primary cost to close C&S is severance costs, of which approximately \$9 million was recorded in the third quarter of 2008. We expect to incur additional severance costs and may incur a charge related to the abandonment of various leased properties.

Plant Closing - Billerica, Mass.

In September 2008, we announced that we plan to close our printing plant in Billerica, Mass., and consolidate the printing of the Globe into our main printing plant in Dorchester, Mass. While the exact timing of the closing has not yet been set, it is expected to occur in the second half of 2009. The plant is being closed because we no longer need as many presses to print all copies of the Globe. The cost savings and one-time costs related to the closing and the capital expenditures related to the consolidation cannot be estimated at this time because this information is dependent on ongoing negotiations with labor unions and certain production decisions not yet made. Certain property, plant and equipment located at the Billerica plant was impaired and a related write-down is included within our total New England Media Group impairment charge (see Note 3 of the Notes to the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements).

Severance Costs

We recognized severance costs of \$18.1 million in the third quarter of 2008 and \$56.9 million in the first nine months of 2008. In the third quarter and first nine months of 2007, we recognized severance costs of \$4.9 million and \$17.6 million, respectively. Most of the costs in these periods were recognized at the News Media Group. These costs are primarily recorded in Selling, general and administrative costs in our Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations.

Acquisitions

In March 2008, we acquired certain assets of the Winter Haven News Chief (News Chief), a regional newspaper in Winter Haven, Fla., for \$2.5 million. Also in March 2008, we purchased additional Class A units of BehNeem, LLC (BehNeem), increasing our total investment to \$4.3 million for a 53% ownership interest. BehNeem licenses the Epsilon Environment, an integrated online course content, portfolio and communications tool for the education community. The operating results of the News Chief are included in the results of the Regional Media Group and the operating results of BehNeem are included in the results of The New York Times Media Group, both of which are part of the News Media Group.

See Note 4 of the Notes to the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

Plant Consolidation

In 2006, we announced plans to consolidate the printing operations of a facility we leased in Edison, N.J., into our newest facility in College Point, N.Y. As part of the consolidation, we purchased the Edison facility and then sold it, with two adjacent properties we already owned, to a third party. The purchase and sale of the Edison facility closed in the second quarter of 2007, relieving us of rental terms that were above market as well as certain restoration obligations under the original lease. As a result of the sale, we recognized a pre-tax loss of \$68.2 million (\$41.3 million after tax) in the second quarter of 2007.

The Edison facility was closed in March 2008. The costs to close the Edison facility were approximately \$89 million, principally consisting of accelerated depreciation charges (approximately \$69 million), severance costs (approximately \$15 million) and plant restoration costs (approximately \$5 million).

2008 EXPECTATIONS

Expectations regarding certain financial measures for 2008 are in the table below.

| Item | 2008 Expectations |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Depreciation & amortization | \$145 to \$155 million(1) |
| Income from joint ventures | \$15 to \$20 million(2) |
| Interest expense | \$49 to \$53 million |
| Capital expenditures | \$140 to \$145 million(3) |

(1) Includes approximately \$5 million of accelerated depreciation expense in the first quarter of 2008 associated with the New York area plant consolidation project. Depreciation for our new headquarters building is expected to be approximately \$7 million per quarter.

(2) Includes an estimated \$5.6 million non-cash impairment charge for Metro Boston recorded in the third quarter of 2008.

(3) For 2009, we expect capital expenditures to be approximately \$80 million.

Due to significant volatility from quarter to quarter, we will no longer provide tax rate guidance.

For the first nine months of 2008, severance costs were approximately \$57 million, which is higher than previous guidance because of the severance costs associated with the expected closure of C&S. Additional amounts may be recorded for C&S before it is closed. Due to the uncertainty of the amount of possible severance costs, we are not providing updated guidance.

Previously we said we believe we would achieve a reduction in costs from our year-end 2007 cash cost base of a total of more than \$230 million in 2008 and 2009, excluding the effects of inflation, severance costs and one-time costs. More than \$130 million of these savings were expected in 2008. As a result of our continuous cost reduction efforts, we now expect to exceed the \$130 million and \$230 million targets by even larger

amounts. Therefore, we will stop measuring our cost savings against these targets. We continue to explore a wide range of additional cost reduction initiatives.

RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The following table presents our consolidated financial results.

| (In thousands) | For the Quarters Ended | | | For the Nine Months Ended | | |
|--|------------------------|-----------------------|----------|---------------------------|-----------------------|----------|
| | September 28, 2008 | September 30, 2007 | % Change | September 28, 2008 | September 30, 2007 | % Change |
| Revenues | | | | | | |
| Advertising | \$ 398,196 | \$ 465,043 | (14.4) | \$ 1,310,912 | \$ 1,478,425 | (11.3) |
| Circulation | 225,689 | 223,420 | 1.0 | 676,486 | 664,538 | 1.8 |
| Other | 63,157 | 65,896 | (4.2) | 189,404 | 186,359 | 1.6 |
| Total revenues | 687,042 | 754,359 | (8.9) | 2,176,802 | 2,329,322 | (6.5) |
| Operating costs | | | | | | |
| Production costs: | | | | | | |
| Raw materials | 62,645 | 58,643 | 6.8 | 182,006 | 196,678 | (7.5) |
| Wages and benefits | 148,183 | 163,367 | (9.3) | 473,695 | 487,810 | (2.9) |
| Other | 111,418 | 109,952 | 1.3 | 331,508 | 318,421 | 4.1 |
| Total production costs | 322,246 | 331,962 | (2.9) | 987,209 | 1,002,909 | (1.6) |
| Selling, general and administrative costs | 320,929 | 342,503 | (6.3) | 1,006,392 | 1,029,045 | (2.2) |
| Depreciation and amortization | 33,881 | 51,789 | (34.6) | 108,454 | 142,871 | (24.1) |
| Total operating costs | 677,056 | 726,254 | (6.8) | 2,102,055 | 2,174,825 | (3.3) |
| Impairment of assets | 160,430 | | N/A | 178,721 | | N/A |
| Net loss on sale of assets | | | N/A | | 68,156 | N/A |
| Gain on sale of WQEW-AM | | | N/A | | 39,578 | N/A |
| Operating (loss)/profit | (150,444) | 28,105 | * | (103,974) | 125,919 | * |
| Net income from joint ventures | 6,892 | 5,412 | 27.3 | 15,264 | 8,004 | 90.7 |
| Interest expense, net | 11,658 | 10,470 | 11.3 | 35,507 | 28,924 | 22.8 |
| (Loss)/income from continuing operations before income taxes and minority interest | (155,210) | 23,047 | * | (124,217) | 104,999 | * |
| Income tax (benefit)/expense | (40,360) | 8,991 | * | (30,801) | 48,741 | * |
| Minority interest in net (income)/loss of subsidiaries | (54) | 54 | * | (371) | 39 | * |
| (Loss)/income from continuing operations | (114,904) | 14,110 | * | (93,787) | 56,297 | * |
| Discontinued operations, Broadcast Media Group: | | | | | | |
| Income from discontinued operations, net of income taxes | | | N/A | | 5,753 | N/A |
| Gain/(loss) on sale, net of income taxes | 8,611 | (671) | * | 8,300 | 93,659 | (91.1) |
| Discontinued operations, net of income taxes Broadcast Media Group | 8,611 | (671) | * | 8,300 | 99,412 | (91.7) |
| Net (loss)/income | \$ (106,293) | \$ 13,439 | * | \$ (85,487) | \$ 155,709 | * |

* Represents an increase or decrease in excess of 100%.

Revenues

Revenues by reportable segment and for the Company as a whole were as follows:

| (In thousands) | For the Quarters Ended | | | For the Nine Months Ended | | |
|------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|----------|---------------------------|-----------------------|----------|
| | September 28, 2008 | September 30, 2007 | % Change | September 28, 2008 | September 30, 2007 | % Change |
| Revenues: | | | | | | |
| News Media Group | \$ 658,336 | \$ 729,635 | (9.8) | \$ 2,091,314 | \$ 2,257,350 | (7.4) |
| About Group | 28,706 | 24,724 | 16.1 | 85,488 | 71,972 | 18.8 |
| Total revenues | \$ 687,042 | \$ 754,359 | (8.9) | \$ 2,176,802 | \$ 2,329,322 | (6.5) |

News Media Group

Advertising, circulation and other revenues by operating segment of the News Media Group and for the Group as a whole were as follows:

| (In thousands) | For the Quarters Ended | | | For the Nine Months Ended | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|
| | September 28, 2008 | September 30, 2007 | % Change | September 28, 2008 | September 30, 2007 | % Change |
| The New York Times Media Group | | | | | | |
| Advertising | \$ 234,001 | \$ 271,234 | (13.7) | \$ 781,607 | \$ 867,774 | (9.9) |
| Circulation | 165,993 | 162,896 | 1.9 | 496,866 | 481,446 | 3.2 |
| Other | 43,800 | 47,388 | (7.6) | 130,587 | 133,607 | (2.3) |
| Total | \$ 443,794 | \$ 481,518 | (7.8) | \$ 1,409,060 | \$ 1,482,827 | (5.0) |
| New England Media Group | | | | | | |
| Advertising | \$ 74,060 | \$ 91,838 | (19.4) | \$ 240,591 | \$ 289,414 | (16.9) |
| Circulation | 38,797 | 39,755 | (2.4) | 114,060 | 117,537 | (3.0) |
| Other | 12,683 | 11,498 | 10.3 | 38,029 | 31,548 | 20.5 |
| Total | \$ 125,540 | \$ 143,091 | (12.3) | \$ 392,680 | \$ 438,499 | (10.4) |
| Regional Media Group | | | | | | |
| Advertising | \$ 63,547 | \$ 78,609 | (19.2) | \$ 209,212 | \$ 253,020 | (17.3) |
| Circulation | 20,899 | 20,769 | 0.6 | 65,560 | 65,555 | 0.0 |
| Other | 4,556 | 5,648 | (19.3) | 14,802 | 17,449 | (15.2) |
| Total | \$ 89,002 | \$ 105,026 | (15.3) | \$ 289,574 | \$ 336,024 | (13.8) |
| Total News Media Group | | | | | | |
| Advertising | \$ 371,608 | \$ 441,681 | (15.9) | \$ 1,231,410 | \$ 1,410,208 | (12.7) |
| Circulation | 225,689 | 223,420 | 1.0 | 676,486 | 664,538 | 1.8 |
| Other | 61,039 | 64,534 | (5.4) | 183,418 | 182,604 | 0.4 |
| Total | \$ 658,336 | \$ 729,635 | (9.8) | \$ 2,091,314 | \$ 2,257,350 | (7.4) |

Advertising Revenues

Advertising revenue is primarily determined by the volume, rate and mix of advertisements. Total News Media Group advertising revenues decreased in the third quarter and first nine months of 2008 primarily due to lower print volume, particularly for classified advertising. Print advertising revenues declined 18.5% and 15.4% in the third quarter and first nine months of 2008, respectively, while online advertising revenues increased 8.3% and 13.9% in the same periods. Difficult national and local economic conditions and a secular shift of print advertising to online alternatives have continued to negatively affect classified, national and retail advertising at the News Media Group.

Advertising revenues (print and online) by category for the News Media Group were as follows:

| (In thousands) | For the Quarters Ended | | | For the Nine Months Ended | | |
|----------------|------------------------|-----------------------|----------|---------------------------|-----------------------|----------|
| | September 28, 2008 | September 30, 2007 | % Change | September 28, 2008 | September 30, 2007 | % Change |

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| | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------|----|---------|----|---------|--------|----|-----------|----|-----------|--------|
| National | \$ | 188,666 | \$ | 212,910 | (11.4) | \$ | 616,475 | \$ | 662,056 | (6.9) |
| Retail | | 86,507 | | 97,191 | (11.0) | | 281,188 | | 314,180 | (10.5) |
| Classified | | 82,778 | | 117,157 | (29.3) | | 289,730 | | 387,735 | (25.3) |
| Other | | 13,657 | | 14,423 | (5.3) | | 44,017 | | 46,237 | (4.8) |
| Total | \$ | 371,608 | \$ | 441,681 | (15.9) | \$ | 1,231,410 | \$ | 1,410,208 | (12.7) |

The New York Times Media Group

The New York Times Media Group's advertising revenues in the first nine months of 2008 consisted of approximately 69% from the national category, 17% from the classified category, 12% from the retail category and 2% from other advertising categories. Total advertising revenues declined in the third quarter and first nine months of 2008 primarily due to lower print advertising, particularly in the national category, offset in part by higher online revenues.

National advertising decreased in the third quarter and first nine months of 2008 compared with the same periods in 2007 mainly because of lower print advertising offset in part by higher online revenues. National print advertising has been negatively affected by the slowdown in the economy. Online national advertising continues to grow as a result of secular shifts to online alternatives.

Classified advertising decreased in the third quarter and first nine months of 2008 compared with the same periods in 2007 due to declines in all three print categories (real estate, help-wanted and automotive). The slowdown in the local and national housing markets and weakening economic conditions have contributed to the declines in classified advertising. In addition, print classified advertising was negatively affected by secular shifts to online alternatives.

Retail advertising had declines in the third quarter and first nine months of 2008 compared with the same periods in 2007 because of lower volume in various print advertising categories. Shifts in marketing strategies and budgets of major advertisers have negatively affected retail advertising.

New England Media Group

The New England Media Group's advertising revenues in the first nine months of 2008 consisted of approximately 34% from the classified category, 30% from the retail category, 29% from the national category and 7% from other advertising categories. Total advertising revenues declined in the third quarter and first nine months of 2008 primarily due to the continued decline in print advertising revenue affecting the newspaper industry.

Classified advertising declined in all print categories (help-wanted, real estate and automotive) in the third quarter and first nine months of 2008 compared with the same periods in 2007. The majority of the decline was in the help-wanted and real estate categories due to softness in the job market and the continued slowdown in the local and national housing markets. In addition, secular shifts to online advertising contributed to the print classified advertising declines.

Retail and national advertising declined in the third quarter and first nine months of 2008 compared with the same periods in 2007 mainly due to lower volume in various print advertising categories, which was partially offset by growth in online advertising. The difficult economy and challenging market conditions in Boston and the greater New England area were major factors contributing to these declines.

Regional Media Group

The Regional Media Group's advertising revenues in the first nine months of 2008 consisted of approximately 54% from the retail category, 36% from the classified category and 10% from the national and other advertising categories.

Total advertising revenues declined in the third quarter and first nine months of 2008 due to declines in all print categories, primarily in the classified areas (real estate, help-wanted and automotive), which was mainly driven by the downturn in the Florida and California housing markets and softening economic conditions. About two-thirds of advertising revenues of the Regional Media Group came from newspapers in Florida and California.

Circulation Revenues

Circulation revenue is based on the number of copies sold and the subscription and newsstand rates charged to customers. Our newspapers have been executing circulation strategies that rebalance the copy mix away from less profitable circulation. As we execute this shift, we are seeing circulation declines but have realized, and believe we will continue to realize, significant benefits in reduced costs and improved circulation profitability.

Circulation revenues in the third quarter and first nine months of 2008 increased 1.0% and 1.8%, respectively, compared with the same periods in 2007 mainly because of higher home-delivery and newsstand prices, offset in part by volume declines across the News Media Group. The Times increased home-delivery and newsstand prices in July 2007. In July 2008, it increased home-delivery prices an average of 4.5%, and on August 18, it increased the newsstand price of the Monday through Saturday edition from \$1.25 to \$1.50. These increases are expected to add approximately \$21 to \$26 million in revenue on an annual basis. The Globe increased its newsstand price in the metropolitan Boston area from 50 to 75 cents in February 2008. On September 1, it increased the newsstand price outside of the metropolitan Boston area from 75 cents to \$1.00. In addition, on September 1, it increased its home-delivery price of the Monday through Saturday edition from \$4.25 to \$5.75 per week.

Other Revenues

Other revenues decreased in the third quarter of 2008 primarily because of the elimination of subscription revenues for TimesSelect, an online product offering that was discontinued in September 2007. In the first nine months of 2008, other revenues decreased mainly due to the elimination of subscription revenues for TimesSelect offset in part by rental income from the lease of six floors in our new headquarters and increased commercial printing.

About Group

About Group revenues increased 16.1% to \$28.7 million in the third quarter of 2008 from \$24.7 million in the third quarter of 2007 and 18.8% to \$85.5 million in the first nine months of 2008 compared with \$72.0 million in the same period last year, primarily due to higher advertising rates and increased volume in cost-per-click advertising, as well as revenues associated with the acquisition of ConsumerSearch, Inc., a leading

online aggregator and publisher of consumer product reviews acquired in May 2007.

Operating Costs

Operating costs were as follows:

| (In thousands) | For the Quarters Ended | | | For the Nine Months Ended | | |
|---|------------------------|-----------------------|----------|---------------------------|-----------------------|----------|
| | September 28, 2008 | September 30, 2007 | % Change | September 28, 2008 | September 30, 2007 | % Change |
| Operating costs | | | | | | |
| Production costs: | | | | | | |
| Raw materials | \$ 62,645 | \$ 58,643 | 6.8 | \$ 182,006 | \$ 196,678 | (7.5) |
| Wages and benefits | 148,183 | 163,367 | (9.3) | 473,695 | 487,810 | (2.9) |
| Other | 111,418 | 109,952 | 1.3 | 331,508 | 318,421 | 4.1 |
| Total production costs | 322,246 | 331,962 | (2.9) | 987,209 | 1,002,909 | (1.6) |
| Selling, general and administrative costs | 320,929 | 342,503 | (6.3) | 1,006,392 | 1,029,045 | (2.2) |
| Depreciation and amortization | 33,881 | 51,789 | (34.6) | 108,454 | 142,871 | (24.1) |
| Total operating costs | \$ 677,056 | \$ 726,254 | (6.8) | \$ 2,102,055 | \$ 2,174,825 | (3.3) |

Production Costs

Total production costs decreased 2.9% (\$9.7 million) in the third quarter of 2008 compared with the third quarter of 2007. We had lower benefits expense (\$7.8 million), primarily due to a decrease in worker's compensation, pension and other postretirement expense, and lower compensation-related costs (\$7.4 million) mainly resulting from a reduced workforce and lower incentive compensation. These decreases were partially offset by higher raw materials expense (\$4.0 million) due to higher newsprint paper prices.

Newsprint expense increased 2.1% in the third quarter of 2008, with 22.1% stemming from an increase in prices, offset in part by a 20.0% decrease in consumption. Newsprint prices, which had generally declined in late 2006 and most of 2007, began to increase in the fourth quarter of 2007, and have continued to increase in 2008. Newsprint suppliers have announced further price increases to take effect in the fourth quarter of 2008.

Total production costs decreased 1.6% (\$15.7 million) in the first nine months of 2008 compared with the same period in 2007. We had lower raw materials expense (\$14.7 million), primarily driven by a decline in newsprint consumption, lower compensation-related costs (\$7.6 million), mainly resulting from a reduced workforce and a decrease in incentive compensation, and lower benefits expense (\$7.0 million). These decreases were partially offset by higher content costs (\$3.6 million), primarily at the About Group, and higher rent expense (\$3.4 million) mainly associated with our lease of the Edison, N.J., facility until operations ceased.

Newsprint expense in the first nine months of 2008 decreased 11.5%, with 17.9% from lower consumption, offset in part by 6.4% in higher prices.

Selling, General and Administrative Costs

Total selling, general and administrative costs decreased 6.3% (\$21.6 million) in the third quarter of 2008 compared with the third quarter of 2007. We had lower compensation-related costs (\$15.8 million), mainly due to lower incentive compensation and a reduced workforce, lower promotion costs (\$6.6 million), lower benefits expense (\$4.3 million) and professional fees (\$4.2 million). The decline in promotion costs mainly resulted from our circulation strategies to rebalance the copy mix away from less profitable circulation. These decreases were offset in part by higher severance costs (\$13.1 million), mainly due to the expected C&S closure.

Total selling, general and administrative costs decreased 2.2% (\$22.7 million) in the first nine months of 2008 primarily because of lower compensation-related costs (\$32.2 million), mainly due to lower incentive compensation and a reduced workforce, lower promotion costs (\$12.7 million), which resulted from our circulation strategies to rebalance the copy mix away from less profitable circulation, lower benefits expense (\$9.0 million), costs in the second quarter of 2007 related to the move into our new headquarters (\$5.7 million), and lower professional fees (\$5.4 million). These decreases were primarily offset by increased severance costs (\$38.8 million) and stock-based compensation expense (\$5.8 million).

Stock-based compensation expense increased in the first nine months of 2008 primarily because of a shift in the timing of our annual equity awards. Historically equity awards were made in December of each year. In early 2007, the Board of Directors elected to make annual equity awards in February of each year, beginning in February 2008, to better enable it to evaluate performance during the most recently completed fiscal year.

Depreciation and Amortization

Total depreciation and amortization, by reportable segment, Corporate and for the Company as a whole, was as follows:

| (In thousands) | For the Quarters Ended | | | For the Nine Months Ended | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|----------|---------------------------|-----------------------|----------|
| | September 28, 2008 | September 30, 2007 | % Change | September 28, 2008 | September 30, 2007 | % Change |
| Depreciation and amortization: | | | | | | |
| News Media Group | \$ 29,459 | \$ 46,087 | (36.1) | \$ 93,882 | \$ 127,249 | (26.2) |
| About Group | 2,636 | 3,956 | (33.4) | 9,038 | 10,507 | (14.0) |
| Corporate | 1,786 | 1,746 | 2.3 | 5,534 | 5,115 | 8.2 |
| Total depreciation and amortization | \$ 33,881 | \$ 51,789 | (34.6) | \$ 108,454 | \$ 142,871 | (24.1) |

In the third quarter and first nine months of 2008, the News Media Group's depreciation and amortization declined primarily because there was no accelerated depreciation expense in the third quarter of 2008 for assets at the Edison, N.J., printing facility, which we closed in March 2008, compared with \$11.7 million of accelerated depreciation expense in the third quarter of 2007. In the first nine months of 2008, accelerated depreciation expense totaled \$5.0 million compared with \$36.4 million in the same period in 2007. The About Group's depreciation and amortization declined in the third quarter and first nine months of 2008, mainly because an asset reached the end of its amortization period in the second quarter of 2008.

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The following table sets forth consolidated operating costs by reportable segment, Corporate and the Company as a whole.

| (In thousands) | For the Quarters Ended | | | For the Nine Months Ended | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| | September 28, 2008 | September 30, 2007 | % Change | September 28, 2008 | September 30, 2007 | % Change |
| Operating costs: | | | | | | |
| News Media Group | \$ 651,246 | \$ 696,499 | (6.5) | \$ 2,008,176 | \$ 2,089,354 | (3.9) |
| About Group | 17,922 | 18,433 | (2.8) | 56,067 | 48,840 | 14.8 |
| Corporate | 7,888 | 11,322 | (30.3) | 37,812 | 36,631 | 3.2 |
| Total operating costs | \$ 677,056 | \$ 726,254 | (6.8) | \$ 2,102,055 | \$ 2,174,825 | (3.3) |

News Media Group

In the third quarter of 2008, operating costs for the News Media Group decreased 6.5% (\$45.3 million), mainly due to lower compensation-related costs (\$21.4 million), depreciation and amortization expense (\$16.6 million), benefits expense (\$11.1 million) and promotion costs (\$6.2 million), which were partially offset by higher severance costs (\$13.4 million).

In the first nine months of 2008, operating costs decreased 3.9% (\$81.2 million), mainly due to lower compensation-related costs (\$38.3 million), depreciation and amortization expense (\$33.4 million), raw materials expense (\$14.7 million), benefits expense (\$14.4 million) and promotion costs (\$13.7 million), which were partially offset by higher severance costs (\$38.3 million).

About Group

Operating costs for the About Group decreased 2.8% (\$0.5 million) in the third quarter of 2008 primarily because of lower depreciation and amortization expense (\$1.3 million), offset in part by investments in new revenue initiatives that resulted in higher professional fees (\$0.4 million) and higher content costs (\$0.2 million).

In the first nine months of 2008, operating costs increased 14.8% (\$7.2 million) primarily because of higher content costs (\$2.4 million), marketing costs (\$2.0 million) and compensation-related costs (\$1.2 million). These increases were mainly due to investments in new revenue initiatives. In addition, operating costs reflect costs from ConsumerSearch, Inc., which was acquired in May 2007, for the first nine months of 2008 and only from the date of acquisition in 2007.

Corporate

Operating costs for Corporate decreased 30.3% (\$3.4 million) in the third quarter of 2008 compared with the same period last year mainly due to lower professional fees (\$1.7 million) and compensation-related costs (\$1.6 million). In the first nine months of 2008, operating costs increased 3.2% (\$1.2 million) primarily because of increased stock-based compensation expense due to the change in timing of our annual equity awards (\$5.4 million), partially offset by lower compensation-related costs (\$3.4 million).

Sale of WQEW-AM

On April 26, 2007, we sold WQEW-AM to Radio Disney, LLC (which had been providing substantially all of WQEW-AM programming through a time brokerage agreement) for \$40 million. We recognized a pre-tax gain of \$39.6 million (\$21.2 million after tax) in the second quarter of 2007.

Operating (Loss)/Profit

Consolidated operating (loss)/profit, by reportable segment, Corporate and for the Company as a whole, were as follows:

| (In thousands) | For the Quarters Ended | | | For the Nine Months Ended | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|----------|---------------------------|-----------------------|----------|
| | September 28, 2008 | September 30, 2007 | % Change | September 28, 2008 | September 30, 2007 | % Change |
| Operating (loss)/profit: | | | | | | |
| News Media Group | \$ (153,340) | \$ 33,136 | * | \$ (95,583) | \$ 139,418 | * |
| About Group | 10,784 | 6,291 | 71.4 | 29,421 | 23,132 | 27.2 |
| Corporate | (7,888) | (11,322) | (30.3) | (37,812) | (36,631) | 3.2 |
| Total operating (loss)/profit | \$ (150,444) | \$ 28,105 | * | \$ (103,974) | \$ 125,919 | * |

* Represents a decrease in excess of 100%.

The reasons underlying the period-to-period changes in each segment's and Corporate's operating (loss)/profit are previously discussed under Revenues, Operating Costs, Recent Developments, Impairment of Assets and Plant Consolidation and Sale of WQEW-AM.

Non-Operating Items**Joint Ventures**

Net income from joint ventures totaled \$6.9 million in the third quarter of 2008 compared with \$5.4 million in the third quarter of 2007, and \$15.3 million in the first nine months of 2008 compared with \$8.0 million in the first nine months of 2007. Higher earnings mainly resulted from stronger performance at New England Sports Ventures, LLC, which owns the Boston Red Sox, and at the paper mills in which we have investments. These increases were offset in part by the estimated \$5.6 million non-cash impairment charge for Metro Boston, recorded in the third quarter of 2008. See Note 3 of the Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements for additional information.

Interest Expense, Net

Interest expense, net in our Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations was as follows:

| (In thousands) | For the Quarters Ended | | For the Nine Months Ended | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| | September 28, 2008 | September 30, 2007 | September 28, 2008 | September 30, 2007 |
| Interest expense | \$ 12,222 | \$ 13,276 | \$ 37,631 | \$ 45,585 |
| Capitalized interest | (515) | (1,594) | (1,977) | (13,717) |
| Interest income | (49) | (1,212) | (147) | (2,944) |
| Interest expense, net | \$ 11,658 | \$ 10,470 | \$ 35,507 | \$ 28,924 |

Interest expense was lower in the third quarter and first nine months of 2008 compared with the comparable 2007 periods primarily due to lower average interest rates. We had higher capitalized interest in 2007 primarily due to the construction of our new headquarters, which we began to occupy in the second quarter of 2007. Interest income was higher in 2007 as a result of the funds we advanced to our development partner for the construction of our new headquarters. This loan was fully repaid in October 2007.

Income Taxes

The income tax benefit for the third quarter and first nine months of 2008 was \$40.4 million and \$30.8 million, respectively, compared with an income tax expense of \$9.0 million and \$48.7 million for the third quarter and first nine months of 2007. Our effective income tax rate was 26.0% in the third quarter and 24.8% in the first nine months of 2008 compared with 39.0% in the third quarter and 46.4% in the first nine months of 2007.

In 2008, the effective income tax rates were low because the goodwill portion of the non-cash impairment charge and losses on investments in corporate-owned life insurance policies were non-deductible for tax purposes and a change in Massachusetts state tax law had an unfavorable effect. In 2007, the effective income tax rates were affected by the asset sales in the second quarter of 2007 (see Notes 2 and 8 of the Notes to the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements) and an unfavorable tax adjustment for a change in New York State tax law.

Discontinued Operations

On May 7, 2007, we sold our Broadcast Media Group, which consisted of nine network-affiliated television stations, their related Web sites and digital operating center, for approximately \$575 million. In 2007, we recognized a pre-tax gain on the sale of approximately \$190 million (approximately \$94 million after tax). Net income from discontinued operations of \$8.6 million in the third quarter of 2008 was due to a reduction in income taxes on the gain on the sale, and net loss from discontinued operations of \$0.7 million in the third quarter of 2007 was due to post-closing adjustments to the gain. The first nine months of 2008 also included post-closing adjustments to the gain on the sale. The results of operations presented as discontinued operations are summarized in the following table.

| (In thousands) | For the Quarters Ended | | For the Nine Months Ended | |
|--|------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| | September 28, 2008 | September 30, 2007 | September 28, 2008 | September 30, 2007 |
| Revenues | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Operating costs | | | | |
| Pre-tax income | | | | |
| Income tax expense | | | | |
| Income from discontinued operations, net of income taxes | | | | |
| Gain/(loss) on sale, net of income taxes: | | | | |
| Gain/(loss) on sale, before taxes | (26) | (1,361) | (565) | 189,880 |
| Income tax (benefit)/expense | (8,637) | (690) | (8,865) | 96,221 |
| Gain/(loss) on sale, net of income taxes | 8,611 | (671) | 8,300 | 93,659 |
| Discontinued operations, net of income taxes | \$ 8,611 | \$ (671) | \$ 8,300 | \$ 99,412 |

LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

We expect our cash balance, cash provided from operations and third-party financing, described below, to be sufficient to meet our normal operating commitments and debt service requirements, to fund planned capital expenditures, to pay dividends to our stockholders and to make any required contributions to our pension plans.

Our Board of Directors plans to review our dividend policy before the end of this year to determine what is most prudent in light of the overall market conditions.

We repurchase Class A Common Stock under our stock repurchase program from time to time either in the open market or through private transactions and these repurchases may be suspended from time to time or discontinued. During the first nine months of 2008, we did not repurchase any shares of Class A Common Stock pursuant to our stock repurchase program. As of September 28, 2008, approximately \$91 million remained from our current share repurchase authorization.

Capital Resources

Sources and Uses of Cash

Cash flows by category were as follows:

| (In thousands) | For the Nine Months Ended | |
|----------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| | September 28, 2008 | September 30, 2007 |
| Operating Activities | \$ 144,232 | \$ 29,074 |
| Investing Activities | \$ (142,113) | \$ 227,714 |
| Financing Activities | \$ (8,862) | \$ (276,410) |

Operating Activities

The primary source of our liquidity is cash flows from operating activities. The key component of operating cash inflow is cash receipts from advertising customers. Advertising has provided approximately 65% of total revenues over the past three years. Operating cash inflows also include cash receipts from circulation sales and other revenue transactions such as news services/syndication, commercial printing, digital archives, direct

mail advertising services, rental income and wholesale delivery operations, which we expect to close in January 2009 as discussed above. Operating cash outflows include payments to employees, payments to vendors for raw materials, services and supplies, and payments of interest and income taxes.

In the first nine months of 2008, net cash provided by operating activities increased approximately \$115 million compared with the same period in 2007 mainly due to higher working capital requirements in 2007 primarily driven by income taxes paid on the gains on the sales of the Broadcast Media Group and WQEW-AM in the first nine months of 2007.

Investing Activities

Cash from investing activities generally include proceeds from the sale of assets or a business. Cash used in investing activities generally includes payments for the acquisition of new businesses, equity investments and capital expenditures, including property, plant and equipment.

In the first nine months of 2008, net cash used in investing activities of \$142.1 million was primarily due to capital expenditures related to the consolidation of printing operations into our facility in College Point, N.Y., and for construction of our new headquarters. In the first nine months of 2007, net cash provided by investing activities of \$227.7 million included proceeds (approximately \$706 million) from the sales of the Broadcast Media Group, WQEW-AM and Edison, N.J., assets, partially offset by payments (approximately \$475 million) for capital expenditures, primarily related to the construction of our new headquarters, and for the acquisitions of the Edison, N.J., printing facility, ConsumerSearch, Inc. and UCompareHealthCare.com.

Financing Activities

Cash from financing activities generally includes borrowings under our revolving credit agreements and commercial paper program, the issuance of long-term debt and funds from stock option exercises. Cash used in financing activities generally includes the repayment of amounts outstanding under our revolving credit agreements, commercial paper and long-term debt; the payment of dividends; and the repurchase of our Class A Common Stock.

In the first nine months of 2008, net cash used in financing activities of \$8.9 million mainly related to repayments of commercial paper (approximately \$112 million) and dividend payments (approximately \$100 million), partially offset by borrowings under our revolving credit agreements (approximately \$203 million). In the first nine months of 2007, net cash used in financing activities of \$276.4 million mainly related to repayments of commercial paper and medium-term notes (approximately \$433 million) and dividend payments (approximately \$92 million), partially offset by borrowings under our revolving credit agreements (approximately \$205 million) and cash received from our real estate development partner for the repayment of our loan receivable (approximately \$45 million).

See our Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for additional information on our sources and uses of cash.

Third-Party Financing

We currently rely upon our revolving credit agreements for financing to supplement cash flows from operations. Our total debt, including borrowings under revolving credit agreements and capital lease obligations, was \$1.1 billion as of September 28, 2008, and, including these items and commercial paper, was \$1.0 billion as of December 30, 2007.

In April 2008, Standard & Poor's lowered its investment rating on our long-term debt to BBB- from BBB. In October 2008, it again lowered its rating, to a below-investment grade rating of BB-, with a negative outlook, citing the effects on our operating performance of a likely U.S. recession over the immediate term accelerating secular advertising revenue declines. In April 2008, Moody's Investors Service downgraded our senior unsecured debt rating to Baa3 from Baa1, and in October 2008, it placed our ratings on review for a possible downgrade, also citing weakened operating performance expectations.

We have no liabilities subject to accelerated payment upon a ratings downgrade and do not expect a material increase in our current borrowing costs as a result of these ratings actions. However, we expect that any future long-term borrowings or the extension or replacement of our short-term borrowing facilities will reflect the impact of our below investment-grade rating by Standard & Poor's, increasing our borrowing costs, limiting our financing options, including limiting our access to the unsecured borrowing market, and subjecting us to more restrictive covenants appropriate for non-investment grade issuers. Additional reductions in our credit ratings could further increase our borrowing costs, subject us to more onerous terms and reduce our borrowing flexibility in the future.

Revolving Credit Agreements

Our \$800.0 million revolving credit agreements (\$400.0 million credit agreement maturing in May 2009 and \$400.0 million credit agreement maturing in June 2011) are used for general corporate purposes. In addition, these revolving credit agreements provide a facility for the issuance of letters of credit. Any borrowings under the revolving credit agreements bear interest at specified margins based on our credit rating, over various floating rates selected by us. The amount available under our revolving credit agreements is summarized in the following table.

| (In thousands) | September 28, 2008 | December 30, 2007 |
|---|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Revolving credit agreements | \$ 800,000 | \$ 800,000 |
| Less: | | |
| Amount outstanding under revolving credit agreements (weighted average interest rate of 3.1% as of September 28, 2008 and 5.3% as of December 30, 2007) | 397,850 | 195,000 |
| Letters of credit | 35,885 | 24,757 |
| Amount available under revolving credit agreements(1) | \$ 366,265 | \$ 580,243 |

(1) Amount available under the revolving credit agreements also supports our commercial paper program, of which \$111.7 million was outstanding as of December 30, 2007.

The revolving credit agreements each contain a covenant that requires a specified level of stockholders' equity, which as defined by the agreements, does not include accumulated other comprehensive loss and excludes the impact of non-cash impairment charges. The required levels of stockholders' equity (as defined by the agreements) is the sum of \$950.0 million plus an amount equal to 25% of net income for each fiscal year ending after December 28, 2003 for which net income is positive. As of September 28, 2008, the amount of stockholders' equity in excess of the required levels was approximately \$564 million.

We are evaluating future financing arrangements and are in discussions with our lenders regarding the expiration of one of our credit agreements, scheduled for May 2009. Based on these discussions, we expect that we will be able to manage our debt and credit obligations as they mature.

Commercial Paper

Because of tightening short-term credit markets in recent months and recent credit downgrades by Standard & Poor's and Moody's, resulting in wider interest rate spreads, we are no longer utilizing our commercial paper program and rely on our revolving credit agreements for short-term funding. We did not have any commercial paper outstanding as of September 28, 2008, compared with \$111.7 million outstanding as of December 30, 2007, with an annual weighted-average interest rate of 5.5% and an average of 10 days to maturity from original issuance.

RECENT ACCOUNTING PRONOUNCEMENTS

In December 2007, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued FAS No. 141(R), Business Combinations (FAS 141(R)) and FAS No. 160, Accounting and Reporting of Noncontrolling Interests in Consolidated Financial Statements, an amendment of Accounting Research Bulletin No. 51 (FAS 160). Changes for business combination transactions pursuant to FAS 141(R) include, among others, expensing acquisition-related transaction costs as incurred, the recognition of contingent consideration arrangements at their acquisition date fair value and capitalization of in-process research and development assets acquired at their acquisition date fair value. Changes in accounting for noncontrolling (minority) interests pursuant to FAS 160 include, among others, the classification of noncontrolling interest as a component of consolidated stockholders equity and the elimination of minority interest accounting in results of operations. FAS 141(R) and FAS 160 are required to be adopted simultaneously and are effective for fiscal years beginning on or after December 15, 2008. The adoption of FAS 141(R) will affect the accounting for our acquisitions that occur after the adoption date. Based on our current structure, FAS 160 will be immaterial to our financial statements.

CRITICAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Our critical accounting policies are detailed in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 30, 2007. As of September 28, 2008, our critical accounting policies have not changed materially from December 30, 2007.

CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS & OFF-BALANCE SHEET ARRANGEMENTS

Our contractual obligations and off-balance sheet arrangements are detailed in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 30, 2007. As of September 28, 2008, our contractual obligations and off-balance sheet arrangements have not materially changed from December 30, 2007.

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, including the section titled Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, contains forward-looking statements that relate to future events or our future financial performance. We may also make written and oral forward-looking statements in our SEC filings and otherwise. We have tried, where possible, to identify such statements by using words such as believe, expect, intend, estimate, anticipate, will, project, plan and similar expressions in connection with any discussion of operating or financial performance. Any forward-looking statements are and will be based upon our then-current expectations, estimates and assumptions regarding future events and are applicable only as of the dates of such statements. We undertake no obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

By their nature, forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those anticipated in any forward-looking statements. Such factors include those described in Item 1A-Risk Factors of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q and our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 30, 2007, as well as other risks and factors identified from time to time in our SEC filings.

Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

Our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 30, 2007, details our disclosures about market risk. As of September 28, 2008, there were no material changes in our market risk from December 30, 2007.

Item 4. Controls and Procedures

Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures

Janet L. Robinson, our Chief Executive Officer, and James M. Follo, our Chief Financial Officer, have evaluated the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934) as of September 28, 2008. Based on such evaluation, Ms. Robinson and Mr. Follo concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective to ensure that the information required to be disclosed by us in the reports that we file or submit under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the SEC's rules and forms, and is accumulated and communicated to our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

Changes in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

During the third quarter of 2008, we implemented a new system for advertising revenue and billing using SAP applications at The Boston Globe. This is part of a program to migrate our legacy advertising systems to a common SAP platform at certain of our properties. The implementation resulted in changes to our internal control over financial reporting in order to account for modifications to our business and accounting procedures relating to advertising and billing processes. We believe we have taken the necessary steps to monitor and maintain appropriate internal control over financial reporting around advertising and billing during this period of change. We expect to review and determine whether any further modifications are necessary to our internal control over financial reporting as we implement the new system into our operations at other properties, beginning in the first quarter of 2009.

There were no other changes in our internal control over financial reporting during the period covered by this report that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

PART II. OTHER INFORMATION

Item 1A. Risk Factors

Other than with respect to the risk factor discussed below, there have been no material changes to our risk factors as set forth in Item 1A-Risk Factors in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 30, 2007.

Changes in our credit ratings and macroeconomic conditions may affect our borrowing costs, limit our financing options and reduce the flexibility of our financing in the future.

Our long-term debt is rated by Standard & Poor's and Moody's Investors Service. We are currently rated below-investment grade by Standard & Poor's, and any future long-term borrowings or the extension or replacement of our short-term borrowing facilities will reflect the negative impact of this rating, increasing our borrowing costs, limiting our financing options, including limiting our access to the unsecured borrowing market, and subjecting us to more restrictive covenants than our existing debt arrangements. Additional reductions in our credit ratings could further increase our borrowing costs, subject us to more onerous terms and reduce our borrowing flexibility in the future. Such limitations on our financing options may affect our ability to fund major new acquisitions or capital intensive internal initiatives.

In addition, deteriorating economic conditions, including market disruptions, tightened credit markets and significantly wider corporate borrowing spreads, may make it more difficult or costly for us to obtain replacement financing, including in connection with the renewal of an existing revolving credit facility that expires in May 2009 and the refinancing of debt maturing in 2009 and 2010.

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

(c) Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities(1)

| Period | (a) Total Number of Shares of Class A Common Stock Purchased | (b) Average Price Paid Per Share of Class A Common Stock | (c) Total Number of Shares of Class A Common Stock Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs | (d) Maximum Number (or Approximate Dollar Value) of Shares of Class A Common Stock that May Yet Be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs |
|---|--|--|---|--|
| June 30, 2008 August 3, 2008 | 2,228 | \$ 15.65 | | \$ 91,386,000 |
| August 4, 2008 August 31, 2008 | | | | \$ 91,386,000 |
| September 1, 2008 September 28, 2008 | 1,434 | 12.99 | | \$ 91,386,000 |
| Total for the third quarter of 2008(2) | 3,662 | \$ 14.61 | | \$ 91,386,000 |

(1) On April 13, 2004, our Board of Directors authorized repurchases in an amount up to \$400.0 million. During the third quarter of 2008, we did not purchase any shares of Class A Common Stock pursuant to our publicly announced share repurchase program. As of October 31, 2008, we had authorization from the Board to repurchase an amount of up to approximately \$91 million of our Class A Common Stock. The Board has authorized us to purchase shares from time to time as market conditions permit. There is no expiration date with respect to this authorization.

(2) Consists of 3,662 shares (2,228 shares in fiscal July and 1,434 shares in fiscal September) withheld from employees to satisfy tax withholding obligations upon the vesting of restricted shares awarded under our 1991 Executive Stock Incentive Plan. The shares were purchased pursuant to the terms of the plan and not pursuant to our publicly announced share repurchase program.

Item 6. Exhibits

Exhibit No.

- | | |
|------|---|
| 10.1 | The New York Times Company Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan, amended effective January 1, 2009 (filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Form 8-K dated October 23, 2008, and incorporated by reference herein) |
| 12 | Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges |
| 31.1 | Rule 13a-14(a)/15d 14(a) Certification |
| 31.2 | Rule 13a-14(a)/15d 14(a) Certification |
| 32.1 | Certification Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 |
| 32.2 | Certification Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 |

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.

THE NEW YORK TIMES COMPANY
(Registrant)

Date: November 7, 2008

/s/ JAMES M. FOLLO
James M. Follo
Senior Vice President and
Chief Financial Officer
(Principal Financial Officer)

Exhibit Index to Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q

For the Quarter Ended September 28, 2008

Exhibit No.

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