

Chefs' Warehouse, Inc.
Form 10-Q
May 07, 2013
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UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-Q

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

For the quarterly period ended March 29, 2013

OR

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

For the transition period from _____ to _____

Commission file number: 001-35249

THE CHEFS WAREHOUSE, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

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Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

20-3031526
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

100 East Ridge Road

Ridgefield, Connecticut
(Address of principal executive offices)

06877
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (203) 894-1345

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

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§ 232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes No

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

Large accelerated filer Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer (Do not check if a smaller reporting company) Smaller reporting company

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

Number of shares of common stock, par value \$.01 per share, outstanding at May 3, 2013: 21,177,910

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CAUTION CONCERNING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Statements in this report regarding the business of The Chefs' Warehouse, Inc. (the "Company") that are not historical facts are forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act, Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, that involve risks and uncertainties and are based on current expectations and management estimates; actual results may differ materially. Words such as anticipates, expects, intends, plans, believes, seeks, estimates, variations of these words and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. These statements are not guarantees of future performance and are subject to risks, uncertainties and other factors, some of which are beyond our control, are difficult to predict and/or could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or forecasted in the forward-looking statements. The risks and uncertainties which could impact these statements include, but are not limited to, the Company's sensitivity to general economic conditions, including the current economic environment, changes in disposable income levels and consumer discretionary spending on food-away-from-home purchases; the Company's vulnerability to economic and other developments in the geographic markets in which it operates; the risks of supply chain interruptions due to lack of long-term contracts, severe weather or more prolonged climate change, work stoppages or otherwise; the short-term and long-term effects of Hurricane Sandy on the Company's business and the businesses of the Company's customers and suppliers; the risk of loss of customers due to the fact the Company does not customarily have long-term contracts with its customers; changes in the availability or cost of the Company's specialty food products; the ability to effectively price the Company's specialty food products and reduce the Company's expenses; the relatively low margins of the foodservice distribution industry and the Company's sensitivity to inflationary and deflationary pressures; the Company's ability to successfully identify, obtain financing for and complete acquisitions of other foodservice distributors and to integrate and realize expected synergies from those acquisitions; increased fuel costs and expectations regarding the use of fuel surcharges; fluctuations in the wholesale prices of beef, poultry and seafood, including increases in these prices as a result of increases in the cost of feeding and caring for livestock; the loss of key members of the Company's management team and the Company's ability to replace such personnel; the strain on the Company's infrastructure and resources caused by its growth; and other risks and uncertainties included under the heading "Risk Factors" in our Annual Report on Form 10-K filed on March 13, 2013 and under Part II, Item 1A of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q.

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PART I FINANCIAL INFORMATION

ITEM 1. CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
THE CHEFS WAREHOUSE, INC.
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

| | March 29, 2013 (UNAUDITED) | December 28, 2012 |
|--|-----------------------------------|----------------------|
| | (In thousands, except share data) | |
| ASSETS | | |
| Current assets: | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$ 1,235 | \$ 118 |
| Accounts receivable, net of allowance of \$3,501 in 2013 and \$3,440 in 2012 | 53,306 | 56,694 |
| Inventories, net | 39,230 | 40,402 |
| Deferred taxes, net | 2,301 | 2,839 |
| Prepaid expenses and other current assets | 5,103 | 5,452 |
| Total current assets | 101,175 | 105,505 |
| Restricted cash | 8,433 | 11,008 |
| Equipment and leasehold improvements, net | 12,064 | 9,365 |
| Software costs, net | 269 | 328 |
| Goodwill | 59,210 | 45,359 |
| Intangible assets, net | 39,548 | 35,708 |
| Other assets | 2,809 | 2,861 |
| Total assets | \$ 223,508 | \$ 210,134 |
| LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY | | |
| Current liabilities: | | |
| Accounts payable | \$ 32,110 | \$ 33,718 |
| Accrued liabilities | 7,218 | 5,291 |
| Accrued compensation | 2,985 | 3,519 |
| Current portion of long-term debt | 6,177 | 5,175 |
| Total current liabilities | 48,490 | 47,703 |
| Long-term debt, net of current portion | 126,807 | 119,352 |
| Deferred taxes, net | 3,530 | 2,552 |
| Other liabilities and deferred credits | 2,525 | 1,245 |
| Total liabilities | 181,352 | 170,852 |
| Commitments and contingencies: | | |
| Stockholders' equity: | | |
| Preferred Stock - \$0.01 par value, 5,000,000 shares authorized, no shares issued and outstanding as of March 29, 2013 and December 28, 2012 | | |
| Common Stock - \$0.01 par value, 100,000,000 shares authorized, 21,177,910 and 20,988,073 shares issued and outstanding as of March 29, 2013 and December 28, 2012, respectively | 212 | 210 |

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| | | |
|--|------------|------------|
| Additional paid in capital | 21,230 | 21,005 |
| Retained earnings | 20,714 | 18,067 |
| Stockholders' equity | 42,156 | 39,282 |
| Total liabilities and stockholders' equity | \$ 223,508 | \$ 210,134 |

See accompanying notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents**THE CHEFS WAREHOUSE, INC.****CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS****(Unaudited)****(Amounts in thousands, except share and per share amounts)**

| | 13 Week Period Ended | |
|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| | March 29, 2013 | March 30, 2012 |
| Net sales | \$ 139,419 | \$ 98,069 |
| Cost of sales | 104,265 | 72,020 |
| Gross profit | 35,154 | 26,049 |
| Operating expenses | 29,257 | 20,991 |
| Operating income | 5,897 | 5,058 |
| Interest expense | 1,367 | 549 |
| Income before income taxes | 4,530 | 4,509 |
| Provision for income tax expense | 1,883 | 1,876 |
| Net income | \$ 2,647 | \$ 2,633 |
| Net income per share: | | |
| Basic | \$ 0.13 | \$ 0.13 |
| Diluted | \$ 0.13 | \$ 0.13 |
| Weighted average common shares outstanding: | | |
| Basic | 20,747,734 | 20,511,353 |
| Diluted | 20,993,918 | 20,896,071 |

See accompanying notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents**THE CHEFS WAREHOUSE, INC.****CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS****(Unaudited)****(Amounts in thousands)**

| | 13 Week Period Ended | |
|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| | March 29, 2013 | March 30, 2012 |
| Cash flows from operating activities: | | |
| Net income | \$ 2,647 | \$ 2,633 |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities: | | |
| Depreciation and amortization | 1,744 | 606 |
| Provision for allowance for doubtful accounts | 192 | 194 |
| Deferred credits | 119 | (92) |
| Deferred taxes | 1,515 | 191 |
| Amortization of deferred financing fees | 143 | 73 |
| Stock compensation | 289 | 258 |
| Changes in assets and liabilities, net of acquisitions: | | |
| Accounts receivable | 5,439 | 3,217 |
| Inventories | 2,740 | 751 |
| Prepaid expenses and other current assets | 677 | 271 |
| Accounts payable and accrued liabilities | (2,018) | (3,293) |
| Other liabilities | 30 | |
| Other assets | (59) | (35) |
| Net cash provided by operating activities | 13,458 | 4,774 |
| Cash flows from investing activities: | | |
| Capital expenditures | (1,380) | (712) |
| Cash paid for acquisitions | (21,885) | |
| Net cash used in investing activities | (23,265) | (712) |
| Cash flows from financing activities: | | |
| Change in restricted cash | 2,575 | |
| Payment of debt | (2,043) | (3,027) |
| Payment of deferred financing fees | (45) | |
| Surrender of shares to pay withholding taxes | (63) | |
| Borrowings under revolving credit line | 24,400 | 100,643 |
| Payments under revolving credit line | (13,900) | (101,666) |
| Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities | 10,924 | (4,050) |
| Net increase in cash and cash equivalents | 1,117 | 12 |
| Cash and cash equivalents-beginning of period | 118 | 2,033 |
| Cash and cash equivalents-end of period | \$ 1,235 | \$ 2,045 |
| Supplemental cash flow disclosures: | | |
| Cash paid for income taxes | \$ 601 | \$ 1,353 |
| Cash paid for interest | \$ 1,126 | \$ 456 |

See accompanying notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

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THE CHEFS' WAREHOUSE, INC.

NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(IN THOUSANDS, EXCEPT SHARE AMOUNTS AND PER SHARE DATA)

(Information as of March 29, 2013 and for the 13 weeks ended March 29, 2013 and March 30, 2012 is unaudited)

Note 1 Operations and Basis of Presentation

Description of Business and Basis of Presentation

The financial statements include the consolidated accounts of The Chefs' Warehouse, Inc. (the Company) and its direct and indirect wholly-owned subsidiaries. The Company's quarterly periods end on the thirteenth Friday of each quarter. Every six to seven years the Company will add a fourteenth week to its fourth quarter to more closely align its year end to the calendar year. The Company operates in one segment, food product distribution. The Company's customer base consists primarily of menu-driven independent restaurants, fine dining establishments, country clubs, hotels, caterers, culinary schools and specialty food stores.

Consolidation

The Company's direct and indirect wholly-owned operating companies include the following: Dairyland USA Corporation (Dairyland), a New York corporation engaged in business as a distributor of dairy, meat, and specialty foods; Bel Canto Foods, LLC, a New York limited liability company engaged in the business of importing primarily Mediterranean style food products; Dairyland HP LLC, a Delaware limited liability company (DHP) engaged in the business of renting real estate; The Chefs' Warehouse Mid-Atlantic, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company engaged in a business similar to Dairyland, primarily in Maryland and the District of Columbia; The Chefs' Warehouse West Coast, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company engaged in a business similar to Dairyland, primarily in California, Nevada, Oregon and Washington; Michael's Finer Meats, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company engaged in the distribution of meat, seafood and other center-of-the-plate products, primarily in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Tennessee, Michigan, Kentucky, West Virginia and western Pennsylvania; The Chefs' Warehouse Midwest, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company engaged in a business similar to Dairyland, primarily in Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana; and The Chefs' Warehouse of Florida, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company engaged in a business similar to Dairyland, primarily in southern Florida. In addition to these operating companies, the Company also owns 100% of Chefs' Warehouse Parent, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company which owns 100% of The Chefs' Warehouse Mid-Atlantic, LLC, The Chefs' Warehouse West Coast, LLC, The Chefs' Warehouse of Florida, LLC, The Chefs' Warehouse Midwest, LLC and Michael's Finer Meats Holdings, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company. Dairyland owns 100% of Bel Canto Foods, LLC and Dairyland HP LLC. Michael's Finer Meats Holdings, LLC owns 100% of Michael's Finer Meats, LLC. All significant intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated.

Unaudited Interim Financial Statements

The accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements and the related interim information contained within the notes to such condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) and the applicable rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) for interim information and quarterly reports on Form 10-Q. Accordingly, they do not include all the information and disclosures required by GAAP for complete financial statements. These unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements and related notes should be read in conjunction with the audited consolidated financial statements and notes thereto for the fiscal year ended December 28, 2012 filed as part of the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K as filed with the SEC on March 13, 2013.

The unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements appearing in this Form 10-Q have been prepared on the same basis as the audited consolidated financial statements included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K as filed with the SEC on March 13, 2013 and in the opinion of management include all normal recurring adjustments that are necessary for the fair statement of the Company's interim period results. The year-end condensed consolidated balance sheet data was derived from the audited financial statements but does not include all disclosures required by GAAP. Due to seasonal fluctuations and other factors, the results of operations for the 13 weeks ended March 29, 2013 are not necessarily indicative of the results to be expected for the full year.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make significant estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting periods. Actual results could differ from management's estimates.

Table of Contents**THE CHEFS WAREHOUSE, INC.****NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

(IN THOUSANDS, EXCEPT SHARE AMOUNTS AND PER SHARE DATA)

(Information as of March 29, 2013 and for the 13 weeks ended March 29, 2013 and March 30, 2012 is unaudited)

Note 2 Earnings Per Share

The following table sets forth the computation of basic and diluted net income per share:

| | 13 Weeks Ended | |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| | March 29, 2013 | March 30, 2012 |
| Net income | \$ 2,647 | \$ 2,633 |
| Net income per share: | | |
| Basic | \$ 0.13 | \$ 0.13 |
| Diluted | \$ 0.13 | \$ 0.13 |
| Weighted average common shares outstanding: | | |
| Basic | 20,747,734 | 20,511,353 |
| Diluted | 20,993,918 | 20,896,071 |

Reconciliation of net income per common share:

| | 13 Weeks Ended | |
|--|----------------|----------------|
| | March 29, 2013 | March 30, 2012 |
| Numerator: | | |
| Net income | \$ 2,647 | \$ 2,633 |
| Denominator: | | |
| Weighted average basic common shares outstanding | 20,747,734 | 20,511,353 |
| Dilutive effect of unvested common shares | 246,184 | 384,718 |
| Weighted average diluted common shares outstanding | 20,993,918 | 20,896,071 |

Note 3 Derivatives

Derivatives are carried as assets or liabilities at their fair values in accordance with Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) 820, Fair Value Measurements . During 2012 the Company entered into a derivative contract which did not qualify for hedge accounting. In February 2012 the Company purchased an out of the money Brent Crude Option as a hedge against potential geo-political disruptions in the Middle East. This option expired on June 11, 2012.

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THE CHEFS WAREHOUSE, INC.

NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(IN THOUSANDS, EXCEPT SHARE AMOUNTS AND PER SHARE DATA)

(Information as of March 29, 2013 and for the 13 weeks ended March 29, 2013 and March 30, 2012 is unaudited)

Financial Statement Presentation

The effect of the Company's derivative instruments on its condensed consolidated statements of operations for the 13 weeks ended March 29, 2013 and March 30, 2012 was as follows:

| | Location of income (expense) recognized on derivative | 13 Weeks Ended | |
|---|---|-------------------|-------------------|
| | | March 29, 2013 | March 30, 2012 |
| Derivatives not designated as hedging instruments: | | | |
| Brent crude oil option | Operating expenses | | 1 |

Note 4 Fair Value Measurements; Fair Value of Financial Instruments

The Company accounts for certain assets and liabilities at fair value. The Company categorizes each of its fair value measurements in one of the following three levels based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement in its entirety:

Level 1 - Inputs to the valuation methodology are unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets.

Level 2 - Observable inputs other than quoted prices in active markets for identical assets and liabilities include the following:

- a) quoted prices for similar assets in active markets;
- b) quoted prices for identical or similar assets in inactive markets;
- c) inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset; and
- d) inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation or other means.

If the asset has a specified (contractual) term, the Level 2 input must be observable for substantially the full term of the asset.

Level 3 - Inputs to the valuation methodology are unobservable (i.e., supported by little or no market activity) and significant to the fair value measure.

Assets and Liabilities Measured at Fair Value

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As of March 29, 2013, our only asset or liability measured at fair value was the contingent earn-out liability for the Queensgate acquisition. This liability has an estimated fair value of \$2,118 and was estimated using Level 3 inputs. The Company had no assets or liabilities reflected at fair value as of December 28, 2012.

Fair Value of Financial Instruments

The carrying amounts reported in its condensed consolidated balance sheets for accounts receivable and accounts payable approximate fair value due to the immediate to short-term maturity of these financial instruments. The fair values of the current and former revolving credit facilities and term loans approximated their book values as of March 29, 2013 and December 28, 2012, as these instruments had variable interest rates that reflected current market rates.

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THE CHEFS WAREHOUSE, INC.

NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(IN THOUSANDS, EXCEPT SHARE AMOUNTS AND PER SHARE DATA)

(Information as of March 29, 2013 and for the 13 weeks ended March 29, 2013 and March 30, 2012 is unaudited)

Note 5 Acquisitions

The Company accounts for acquisitions in accordance with ASC 805 Business Combinations. Assets acquired and liabilities assumed are recorded in the accompanying consolidated balance sheet at their estimated fair values as of the acquisition date. Results of operations are included in the Company's financial statements from the date of acquisition. For the acquisitions noted below, the Company used the income approach to determine the fair value of the customer relationships, the relief from royalty method to determine the fair value of trademarks and the comparison of economic income using the with/without approach to determine the fair value of non-compete agreements. The Company used Level 3 inputs to determine the fair value of all these intangible assets.

On December 31, 2012, the Company purchased substantially all the assets of Queensgate Foodservice (Queensgate), a foodservice distributor based in Cincinnati, Ohio. The initial purchase price for Queensgate was approximately \$21,900 (subject to customary post-closing working capital adjustments), which the Company financed with borrowings under the New Revolving Credit Facility (as defined below). Additionally, the purchase price may be increased by up to \$2,400 based upon the achievement of certain EBITDA milestones over a two-year period following the closing. At December 31, 2012, the Company estimated the fair value of this contingent consideration to be \$2,118 based upon the most likely expected payout. This contingent liability will be adjusted to fair value on a quarterly basis. The Company expensed \$69 of legal fees in operating expenses related to the acquisition. Pro forma financial information with respect to the acquisition of Queensgate is not required to be included in these financial statements, since the effects of the acquisition are not material to the Company's consolidated financial statements. The Company has completed a preliminary valuation of the tangible and intangible assets of Queensgate. These assets were valued at fair value using Level 3 inputs. Other intangible assets consist of customer relationships, which will be amortized over 7 years, and covenants not to compete which will be amortized over 5 years. Goodwill for the Queensgate acquisition will be amortized for tax purposes over 15 years.

On August 10, 2012, the Company acquired 100% of the outstanding equity interests of Michael's Finer Meats, LLC, an Ohio corporation (Michael's), for approximately \$52,973, net of \$536 of cash. Michael's distributes an extensive portfolio of custom cut beef, seafood and other center-of-the-plate products to many of the leading restaurants, country clubs, hotels and casinos in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Tennessee, Michigan, Kentucky, West Virginia and western Pennsylvania. The Company financed the purchase price with borrowings under its New Credit Facilities (as defined below). During the third quarter of fiscal 2012, the Company expensed \$85 of legal fees in operating expenses related to the acquisition. The Company has completed a formal valuation of the intangible and certain tangible assets of Michael's. The financial statements reflect the results of the valuation of the goodwill, intangible assets and fixed assets the Company acquired in the transaction. These assets were valued at fair value using Level 3 inputs. Other intangible assets consist of customer relationships, which will be amortized over 10 years, two trademarks, which will be amortized over 12-20 years, and covenants not to compete, which will be amortized over 5 years. Goodwill for the Michael's acquisition will be amortized for tax purposes over a period of 15 years. For the thirteen weeks ended March 29, 2013 the Company earned net sales and income before provision for taxes of \$21,147 and \$1,171, respectively, for Michael's.

On April 27, 2012, the Company acquired 100% of the outstanding common stock of Praml International, Ltd., a Nevada corporation (Praml), for approximately \$19,548 in cash. Praml is a leading specialty foodservice company that has serviced the Las Vegas and Reno markets for over 20 years. The Company financed the purchase price with borrowings under its New Credit Facilities. During the second quarter of fiscal 2012, the Company expensed \$23 of legal fees in operating expenses related to the acquisition. Pro forma financial information with respect to the acquisition of Praml is not required to be included in these financial statements, since the effects of the acquisition are not material to the Company's consolidated financial statements. The Company has completed a valuation of the tangible and intangible assets of Praml. These assets were valued at fair value using Level 3 inputs. Other intangible assets consist of customer relationships, which will be amortized over 11 years, covenants not to compete, which will be amortized over 6 years, and two trademarks, which will be amortized over 1-20 years. Goodwill for the Praml acquisition is not deductible for tax purposes.

Table of Contents**THE CHEFS' WAREHOUSE, INC.****NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

(IN THOUSANDS, EXCEPT SHARE AMOUNTS AND PER SHARE DATA)

(Information as of March 29, 2013 and for the 13 weeks ended March 29, 2013 and March 30, 2012 is unaudited)

The table below details the assets and liabilities acquired as part of the acquisitions of Queensgate as of December 31, 2012, Michael's as of August 10, 2012, and Praml as of April 27, 2012, and the allocation of the purchase price paid in connection with these acquisitions.

| | Queensgate(1) | Michael's | Praml |
|------------------------|---------------|-----------|-----------|
| Current assets | \$ 4,140 | \$ 16,161 | \$ 3,315 |
| Customer relationships | 2,000 | 12,431 | 4,187 |
| Trademarks | | 12,724 | 1,369 |
| Goodwill | 13,851 | 11,903 | 12,866 |
| Non-compete agreement | 2,920 | 477 | 1,254 |
| Fixed assets | 1,909 | 2,871 | |
| Deferred tax assets | | 28 | |
| Deferred tax liability | | | (2,676) |
| Capital leases | | (343) | |
| Earn-out liability | (2,118) | | |
| Current liabilities | (817) | (2,743) | (767) |
| Purchase price | \$ 21,885 | \$ 53,509 | \$ 19,548 |

(1) Assets and liabilities acquired for Queensgate are preliminary and subject to change upon completion of the Company's final valuation. The table below presents pro forma consolidated income statement information for the Company as if Michael's had been included in our consolidated results for the entire period reflected. The pro forma information has been prepared using the purchase method of accounting, giving effect to the Michael's acquisition as if the acquisition had been completed on December 31, 2011. The pro forma information is not necessarily indicative of the Company's results of operations had the acquisition of Michael's been completed on that date, nor is it necessarily indicative of the Company's future results. The pro forma information does not reflect any cost savings from operating efficiencies or synergies that could result from the acquisition, and also does not reflect additional revenue opportunities following the acquisition. The pro forma information includes adjustments to record the assets and liabilities of Michael's at their respective fair values based on the Company's final valuation and to give effect to the financing for the acquisition and related transactions.

| | 13 Weeks Ended March 30, 2012 |
|--|----------------------------------|
| Net sales | \$ 118,372 |
| Income before provision for income taxes | 4,755 |

Pro forma net sales reflect the combined revenues of the Company and Michael's. Pro forma income before provision for income taxes reflects the combined Company's and Michael's income before provision for income taxes with the following pro forma adjustments: 1) depreciation of equipment was adjusted for the fair market adjustment of the equipment acquired in the Michael's acquisition, 2) interest expense was adjusted to reflect interest on the borrowings under the New Credit Facilities, which were used to finance the acquisition of Michael's, 3) the intangible assets acquired in the Michael's acquisition were amortized over their estimated useful lives, 4) the private equity management fees of Michael's that were charged by certain of Michael's prior owners were eliminated, 5) the closing costs of the Company and Michael's were eliminated and 6) the transaction bonuses paid by Michael's were eliminated.

Table of Contents**THE CHEFS' WAREHOUSE, INC.****NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

(IN THOUSANDS, EXCEPT SHARE AMOUNTS AND PER SHARE DATA)

(Information as of March 29, 2013 and for the 13 weeks ended March 29, 2013 and March 30, 2012 is unaudited)

Note 6 Inventory

Inventory consists of finished product and is recorded on a first-in, first-out basis. Inventory is reflected net of reserves for shrinkage and obsolescence totaling \$621 and \$650 at March 29, 2013 and December 28, 2012, respectively.

Note 7 Restricted Cash

On April 26, 2012, DHP entered into a financing arrangement under the New Markets Tax Credit (NMTC) program under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code), pursuant to which Commercial Lending II LLC (CLII), a community development entity and a subsidiary of JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A., provided to DHP an \$11,000 construction loan (the NMTC Loan) to help fund DHP's expansion and build-out of the Company's new Bronx, NY distribution facility. The proceeds from the NMTC Loan, net of construction payments, are reflected as restricted cash on the balance sheet. For more information on the NMTC Loan see Note 10.

Note 8 Equipment and Leasehold Improvements

As of the dates indicated, plant, equipment and leasehold improvements consisted of the following:

| | Useful Lives | March 29, 2013 | As of December 28, 2012 |
|---|--------------|----------------|----------------------------|
| Land | Indefinite | \$ 426 | \$ |
| Buildings | 20 years | 1,439 | |
| Machinery and equipment | 5-10 years | 6,275 | 6,268 |
| Computers, data processing and other equipment | 3-7 years | 5,317 | 5,152 |
| Leasehold improvements | 7-15 years | 8,532 | 8,518 |
| Furniture and fixtures | 7 years | 641 | 617 |
| Vehicles | 5 years | 888 | 839 |
| Other | 7 years | 88 | 85 |
| Construction-in-process | | 2,706 | 1,555 |
| | | 26,312 | 23,034 |
| Less: accumulated depreciation and amortization | | (14,248) | (13,669) |
| Equipment and leasehold improvements, net | | \$ 12,064 | \$ 9,365 |

Construction-in-process at March 29, 2013 and December 28, 2012 relates primarily to the build out of our new distribution facility in Bronx, NY. The Company expects to spend approximately \$21,000 to complete the build out and move into this facility during fiscal 2014.

As of March 29, 2013 and December 28, 2012, the Company had \$342 of computer equipment and \$337 of vehicles financed by capital leases. The Company recorded depreciation of \$40 and \$28 on these assets during the 13 weeks ended March 29, 2013 and March 30, 2012, respectively.

Depreciation expense on equipment and leasehold improvements was \$562 and \$359 for the 13 weeks ended March 29, 2013 and March 30, 2012, respectively.

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Gross capitalized software costs were \$1,613 at March 29, 2013 and December 28, 2012. Capitalized software is recorded net of accumulated amortization of \$1,345 and \$1,286 at March 29, 2013 and December 28, 2012, respectively. Depreciation expense on software was \$59 and \$48 for the 13 weeks ended March 29, 2013 and March 30, 2012, respectively.

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During the 13 weeks ended March 29, 2013, the Company incurred \$1,378 of interest and capitalized \$11 of interest related to the build out of its new Bronx, NY distribution facility.

Note 9 Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets

The changes in the carrying amount of goodwill are presented as follows:

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Carrying amount as of December 30, 2011 | \$ 20,590 |
| Goodwill acquired during the year | 24,769 |
| Carrying amount as of December 28, 2012 | 45,359 |
| Goodwill acquired during the year | 13,851 |
| Carrying amount as of March 29, 2013 | \$ 59,210 |

Other intangible assets consist of customer relationships, which are amortized over a period ranging from 6 to 13 years, trademarks, which are amortized over a period ranging from 1 to 20 years, and non-compete agreements, which are amortized over a period of 5 to 6 years. Other intangible assets were comprised of the following at March 29, 2013 and December 28, 2012:

| | Gross Carrying Amount | Accumulated Amortization | Net Amount |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|
| March 29, 2013 | | | |
| Customer relationships | \$ 23,852 | \$ (2,238) | \$ 21,614 |
| Non-compete agreements | 4,651 | (397) | 4,254 |
| Trademarks | 14,393 | (713) | 13,680 |
| Total | \$ 42,896 | \$ (3,348) | \$ 39,548 |
| December 28, 2012 | | | |
| Customer relationships | \$ 21,849 | \$ (1,601) | \$ 20,248 |
| Non-compete agreements | 1,731 | (175) | 1,556 |
| Trademarks | 14,393 | (489) | 13,904 |
| Total | \$ 37,973 | \$ (2,265) | \$ 35,708 |

Amortization expense for other intangibles was \$1,083 and \$152 for the 13 weeks ended March 29, 2013 and March 30, 2012, respectively.

Estimated amortization expense for other intangibles for the 12 months ended December 27, 2013, each of the next four fiscal years and thereafter is as follows:

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| | |
|--------------|------------------|
| 2013 | \$ 4,150 |
| 2014 | 3,977 |
| 2015 | 3,975 |
| 2016 | 3,969 |
| 2017 | 3,933 |
| Thereafter | 20,627 |
| Total | \$ 40,631 |

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Note 10 Debt Obligations

Debt obligations as of March 29, 2013 and December 28, 2012 consisted of the following:

| | March 29, 2013 | December 28, 2012 |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|
| Revolving credit facility | \$ 85,500 | \$ 75,000 |
| Term loan | 36,000 | 38,000 |
| New Markets Tax Credit loan | 11,000 | 11,000 |
| Capital leases | 484 | 527 |
| Total debt obligations | 132,984 | 124,527 |
| Less: current installments | (6,177) | (5,175) |
| Total debt obligations excluding current installments | \$ 126,807 | \$ 119,352 |

On August 2, 2011, Dairyland, The Chefs Warehouse Mid-Atlantic, LLC, Bel Canto Foods, LLC, The Chefs Warehouse West Coast, LLC, The Chefs Warehouse of Florida, LLC (each, a Borrower and collectively, the Borrowers), the Company and Chefs Warehouse Parent, LLC (together with the Company, the Guarantors) entered into a senior secured credit facility (the Credit Agreement) with the lenders from time to time party thereto, JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. (Chase), as administrative agent, and the other parties thereto.

The Credit Agreement provided for a senior secured term loan facility (the Term Loan Facility) in the aggregate amount of up to \$30,000 (the loans thereunder, the Term Loans) and a senior secured revolving loan facility (the Revolving Credit Facility and, together with the Term Loan Facility, the Credit Facilities) of up to an aggregate amount of \$50,000.

On August 2, 2011, the Company incurred \$30,000 in borrowings under the Term Loan Facility of the Credit Agreement and \$14,000 under the Revolving Credit Facility to repay existing indebtedness that certain Borrowers and Guarantors were refinancing in connection with the Company's initial public offering.

On April 25, 2012, the Borrowers and the Guarantors entered into a senior secured credit facility (the New Credit Agreement) with the lenders from time to time party thereto, Chase, as Administrative Agent, and the other parties thereto. The New Credit Agreement replaced the Credit Agreement. On August 29, 2012, Michael's Finer Meats Holdings, LLC and Michael's each were added as a Guarantor under the New Credit Agreement. On January 24, 2013, The Chefs Warehouse Midwest, LLC was added as a Guarantor under the New Credit Agreement.

The New Credit Agreement provided for a senior secured term loan facility (the New Term Loan Facility) in the aggregate amount of up to \$40,000 (the loans thereunder, the New Term Loans) and a senior secured revolving loan facility (the New Revolving Credit Facility and, together with the New Term Loan Facility, the New Credit Facilities) of up to an aggregate amount of \$100,000 (the loans thereunder, the New Revolving Credit Loans). The New Credit Agreement also provided that the Borrowers could, at their option, increase the aggregate amount of borrowings under either the New Revolving Credit Facility or the New Term Loan Facility in an aggregate amount up to \$40,000 (but in not less than \$10,000 increments) (the Accordion) without the consent of any lenders not participating in such increase, subject to certain customary conditions and lenders committing to provide the increase in funding. The final maturity of the New Term Loans and New Revolving Credit Facility was April 25, 2017. Subject to adjustment for prepayments, the Company is required to make quarterly principal payments on the New Term Loans on June 30, September 30, December 31 and March 31, with the first four quarterly payments equal to \$1,000 per quarter and the last sixteen quarterly payments equal to \$1,500 per quarter, with the remaining balance due upon maturity.

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The New Credit Facilities were secured by substantially all the assets of the Borrowers and the Guarantors with the exception of equity interests in and assets of DHP. Borrowings under the New Credit Facilities bore interest at the Company's option of either (i) the alternate base rate (representing the greatest of (1) Chase's prime rate, (2) the federal funds effective rate for overnight borrowings plus 1/2 of 1% and (3) the Adjusted LIBO Rate for one month plus 2.50%) plus in each case the applicable margin of 0.50% for New Revolving Credit Loans or New Term Loans or (ii), in the case of Eurodollar Borrowings

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(as defined in the New Credit Agreement), the Adjusted LIBO Rate plus the applicable margin of 3.0% for New Revolving Credit Loans or New Term Loans. The New Credit Agreement also included financial covenants that required the Company to meet targeted leverage and fixed charge ratios.

On September 28, 2012, the Borrowers exercised the Accordion under the New Credit Agreement in full to increase the aggregate commitments under the New Revolving Credit Facility by \$40,000. As a result of the Borrowers' exercise of the Accordion, borrowing capacity under the New Revolving Credit Loans increased from \$100,000 to \$140,000. All other terms of the New Credit Agreement were unchanged.

On April 26, 2012, DHP entered into a financing arrangement under the New Markets Tax Credit (NMTC) program under the Code, pursuant to which CLII provided to DHP the NMTC Loan to help fund DHP's expansion and build-out of its new Bronx, NY facility, which construction is required under the lease agreement related to such facility. The NMTC Loan is evidenced by a Mortgage Note, dated as of April 26, 2012 (the Mortgage Note), between DHP, as maker, and CLII, as payee. Under the Mortgage Note DHP is obligated to pay CLII (i) monthly interest payments on the principal balance then outstanding and (ii) the entire unpaid principal balance then due and owing on April 26, 2017. Interest accrues under the Mortgage Note at 1.00% per annum for as long as DHP is not in default thereunder, which interest shall be calculated on the basis of the actual number of days elapsed over a year of 360 days.

As of March 29, 2013, the Company and Guarantors were in compliance with all debt covenants under the New Credit Agreement, DHP was in compliance with all debt covenants under the NMTC Loan and the Company had reserved \$1,820 of the New Revolving Credit Facility for the issuance of letters of credit. As of March 29, 2013, funds totaling \$52,680 were available for borrowing under the New Revolving Credit Facility.

On April 17, 2013, the New Credit Agreement was amended and restated. For more information see Note 13 Subsequent Events.

Note 11 Stockholders Equity

During the first quarter of 2013, the Company granted 193,428 restricted stock awards (RSAs) to its employees at a weighted average grant date fair value of \$15.49 each. Of these awards, 154,744 were performance-based grants. We recognized no expense on the performance-based grants during the first quarter as we are not on track to achieve the performance targets. The remaining awards were time-based grants which will vest over three years. During the first quarter, we recognized expense totaling \$50 on these time-based RSAs.

During the first quarter of 2013, the Company recognized \$239 of expense for RSAs issued in prior years.

At March 29, 2013, the Company had 400,212 unvested RSAs outstanding. At March 29, 2013, the total unrecognized compensation cost for these unvested RSAs was \$6,052, and the weighted-average remaining useful life was approximately 22 months. Of this total, \$3,291 related to RSAs with time-based vesting provisions and \$2,761 related to RSAs with performance-based vesting provisions. At March 29, 2013, the weighted-average remaining useful lives were approximately 23 months for time-based vesting RSAs and 20 months for the performance-based vesting RSAs. No compensation expense related to the Company's RSAs has been capitalized.

As of March 29, 2013, there were 1,164,439 shares available for grant in the Company's 2011 Omnibus Equity Incentive Plan.

Note 12 Related Parties

The Company leases two warehouse facilities from related parties. These facilities are 100% owned by entities controlled by certain of the Company's stockholders who are deemed to be affiliates. Expenses related to these facilities totaled \$384 during the 13 weeks ended March 29, 2013. One of the facilities is a distribution facility leased by Dairyland from The Chefs Warehouse Leasing Co., LLC. The Chefs Warehouse

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Leasing Co., LLC leases the distribution center from the New York City Industrial Development Agency. In connection with this sublease arrangement, Dairyland and two of the Company's other subsidiaries are required to act as conditional guarantors of The Chefs' Warehouse Leasing Co., LLC's mortgage

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obligation on the distribution center. The mortgage payoff date is December 2029 and the potential obligation under this guarantee totaled \$10,417 at March 29, 2013. On July 1, 2005, the Company entered into a consent and release agreement with the mortgagee in which the entity guarantors were conditionally released from their respective obligations. The Company and the entity guarantors continue to be in compliance with the specified conditions. The Chefs Warehouse Leasing Co., LLC has the ability to opt out of its lease agreement with the New York City Industrial Development Agency by giving 60 days notice. This action would cause the concurrent reduction in the term of the sublease with Dairyland to December 2014.

One of our non-employee directors, Stephen Hanson, is the President and a 50% owner of a New York City-based multi-concept restaurant operator holding company. Certain subsidiaries of this holding company are customers of the Company and its subsidiaries that purchased approximately \$824 and \$673, respectively, during the 13 weeks ended March 29, 2013 and March 30, 2012. Terms provided to these customers were determined in the ordinary course of business, at arm's length and materially consistent with those of other customers with similar volumes and purchasing patterns.

Each of Christopher Pappas, John Pappas and Dean Facatselis owns 8.33% of a New York City-based restaurant customer of the Company and its subsidiaries that purchased approximately \$48 and \$51, respectively, during the 13 weeks ended March 29, 2013 and March 30, 2012. Messrs. C. Pappas, J. Pappas and Facatselis have no other interest in the restaurant other than these equity interests and are not involved in the day-to-day operation or management of this restaurant. Terms provided to this customer were determined in the ordinary course of business, at arm's length and materially consistent with those of other customers with similar volumes and purchasing patterns.

Note 13 Subsequent Events

Issuance of Senior Notes

On April 17, 2013, the Company issued \$100,000 in guaranteed senior secured notes (the Notes) to Prudential Capital Group, an institutional investment division of Prudential Financial, Inc., through a private placement transaction. The Notes bear an annual interest rate of 5.9% and mature in 2023. The Notes must be repaid in two equal installments of \$50,000. The first payment is due on April 17, 2018. The second payment is due at maturity on April 17, 2023. The proceeds from the private placement of the Notes were used to repay borrowings under the New Revolving Credit Facility.

Amended and Restated Credit Agreement

On April 17, 2013, the Borrowers, the Guarantors and the lenders a party thereto entered into an Amendment and Restatement Agreement to amend and restate the New Credit Agreement (the Amended and Restated Credit Agreement).

The Amended and Restated Credit Agreement amends and restates the New Term Loan Facility and the New Revolving Credit Facility. The Amended and Restated Credit Agreement provides for \$36,000 in principal amount of New Term Loans under the New Term Loan Facility and up to an aggregate amount of \$140,000 of New Revolving Credit Loans under the New Revolving Credit Facility. The sublimits for letters of credit and swingline loans under the New Credit Facilities were unchanged. Unutilized commitments under the revolving credit facility portion of the Amended and Restated Credit Agreement are subject to a per annum fee of from 0.35% to 0.45% based on the Company's leverage ratio. A fronting fee of 0.25% per annum is payable on the face amount of each letter of credit issued under the New Credit Facilities.

The final maturity of the New Credit Facilities remains April 25, 2017. Subject to adjustment for prepayments, the Company is required to make quarterly principal payments on the New Term Loans on June 30, September 30, December 31 and March 31 of each year, with each quarterly payment equal to \$1,500, with the remaining balance due upon maturity.

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After giving effect to the amendment and restatement thereof, borrowings under the New Credit Facilities continue to be secured by all the assets of the Borrowers and Guarantors, with the exception of the equity interests in and assets of DHP, and borrowings thereunder will bear interest at the Company's option of either (i) the alternate base rate (representing the greatest of (1) Chase's prime rate, (2) the federal funds effective rate for overnight borrowings plus 1/2 of 1.00% and (3) the adjusted LIBO rate for one month plus 2.50%) plus in each case an applicable margin of from 1.75% to 2.25%, based on the Company's leverage ratio, or (ii) in the case of Eurodollar Borrowings (as defined in the Amended and Restated Credit Agreement), the adjusted LIBO rate plus an applicable margin of from 2.75% to 3.25% based on the Company's leverage ratio. The LIBO rate is the rate for eurodollar deposits for a period equal to one, three or six months (as selected by the applicable Borrower) appearing on Reuters Screen LIBOR01 Page (or any successor or substitute page on such screen), at approximately 11:00 a.m. London time, two business days prior to the commencement of the applicable interest period. The Amended and Restated Credit Agreement also includes financial covenants that require the Company to meet targeted leverage and fixed charge ratios.

Acquisition of Qzina Specialty Foods North America Inc.

On May 1, 2013, the Company acquired 100% of the equity interests of Qzina Specialty Foods North America Inc. (Qzina), a British Columbia corporation based in Pompano Beach, Florida. Founded in 1982, Qzina is a leading supplier of gourmet chocolate, dessert and pastry products dedicated to the pastry professional. Qzina currently supplies more than 3,000 products to serve some of the finest restaurants, bakeries, patisseries, chocolatiers, hotels and cruise lines throughout the U.S. and Canada. The total purchase price for Qzina was approximately \$32,700 at closing (subject to customary post-closing working capital adjustments) and was funded with borrowings under the revolving credit facility portion of the Amended and Restated Credit Agreement.

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

Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations (MD&A) is provided as a supplement to the accompanying financial statements and footnotes to help provide an understanding of our financial condition, changes in our financial condition and results of operations. The following discussion should be read in conjunction with information included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) on March 13, 2013. Unless otherwise indicated, the terms Company , Chefs Warehouse , we , us and our refer to The Chefs Warehouse, Inc. and its subsidiaries on or after the conversion date. All dollar amounts are in thousands.

OVERVIEW

We are a premier distributor of specialty foods in nine of the leading culinary markets in the United States. We offer more than 20,700 SKUs, ranging from high-quality specialty foods and ingredients to basic ingredients and staples. We serve more than 12,500 customer locations, primarily located in our nine geographic markets across the United States, and the majority of our customers are independent restaurants and fine dining establishments. We believe several key differentiating factors of our business model have enabled us to execute our strategy consistently and profitably across our expanding customer base. These factors consist of a portfolio of distinctive and hard-to-find specialty food products, a highly trained and motivated sales force, strong sourcing capabilities, a fully integrated warehouse management system, a highly sophisticated distribution and logistics platform and a focused, seasoned management team. In recent years, our sales to existing and new customers have increased through the continued growth in demand for specialty food products in general; increased market share driven by our large percentage of sophisticated and experienced sales professionals, our high-quality customer service and our extensive breadth and depth of product offerings, including, as a result of our acquisition of Michael's in August 2012, meat, seafood and other center-of-the-plate products; the acquisition of other specialty food distributors; the expansion of our existing distribution centers; the construction of a new distribution center; and the import and sale of our proprietary brands. Through these efforts, we believe that we have been able to expand our customer base, enhance and diversify our product selections, broaden our geographic penetration and increase our market share.

RECENT ACQUISITIONS

On May 1, 2013, the Company acquired 100% of the equity interests of Qzina Specialty Foods North America Inc. (Qzina), a British Columbia corporation based in Pompano Beach, Florida. Founded in 1982, Qzina is a leading supplier of gourmet chocolate, dessert and pastry products dedicated to the pastry professional. Qzina currently supplies more than 3,000 products to serve some of the finest restaurants, bakeries, patisseries, chocolatiers, hotels and cruise lines throughout the U.S. and Canada. The total purchase price for Qzina was approximately \$32,700 at closing (subject to customary post-closing working capital adjustments) and was funded with borrowings under our revolving credit facility that we amended and restated on April 17, 2013.

On December 31, 2012, the Company acquired substantially all of the assets of Queensgate Foodservice (Queensgate), a foodservice distributor based in Cincinnati, Ohio. Queensgate strengthens the Company's foothold in the Ohio Valley and provides a platform on which to leverage the Michael's acquisition completed earlier in 2012. The purchase price for Queensgate was approximately \$21,900 (subject to customary post-closing working capital adjustments) and was funded with borrowings under our revolving credit facility that we entered into in April 2012. The purchase price may be increased by up to \$2,400 based upon the achievement of certain performance milestones over a two-year period following the closing.

On August 10, 2012, the Company acquired 100% of the equity securities of Michael's Finer Meats, LLC (Michael's), a specialty protein distributor based in Columbus, Ohio. Michael's distributes an extensive portfolio of custom cut beef, seafood and other center-of-the-plate products to many of the leading restaurants, country clubs, hotels and casinos in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Tennessee, Michigan, Kentucky, West Virginia and western Pennsylvania. The total purchase price for the business was approximately \$53,509 and was funded with borrowings under our revolving credit facility that we entered into in April 2012.

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On April 27, 2012, we acquired 100% of the outstanding common stock of Praml International, Ltd. (Praml), a Nevada corporation. The purchase price paid to acquire Praml was approximately \$19,500. We financed the purchase price paid for the outstanding common stock of Praml with borrowings under our revolving credit facility that we entered into in April 2012. Praml was a leading specialty foods importer and wholesale distributor located in Las Vegas, Nevada, which services the Las Vegas and Reno markets.

Our Growth Strategies and Outlook

We continue to invest in our people, facilities and technology to achieve the following objectives and maintain our premier position within the specialty foodservice distribution market:

sales and service territory expansion;

operational excellence and high customer service levels;

expanded purchasing programs and improved buying power;

product innovation and new product category introduction;

operational efficiencies through system enhancements; and

operating expense reduction through the centralization of general and administrative functions.

Our continued profitable growth has allowed us to improve upon our organization's infrastructure, open two new distribution facilities and pursue selective acquisitions. This improved infrastructure has allowed us to maintain our operating margins in an increasingly competitive environment. Prior to the acquisition of Qzina, over the last several years we increased our distribution capacity to approximately 674,000 square feet in eleven facilities. With the Qzina acquisition, we added eight additional locations totaling approximately 160,000 square feet.

Key Factors Affecting Our Performance

Due to our focus on menu-driven independent restaurants, fine dining establishments, country clubs, hotels, caterers and specialty food stores, our results of operations are materially impacted by the success of the food-away-from-home industry in the United States, which is materially impacted by general economic conditions, discretionary spending levels and consumer confidence. When economic conditions deteriorate, our customers' businesses are negatively impacted as fewer people eat away-from-home and those that do spend less money. As economic conditions begin to improve, our customers' businesses historically have likewise improved, which contributes to improvements in our business.

Food price costs also significantly impact our results of operations. Food price inflation, like that which we experienced throughout the first quarter of 2013 and portions of 2012, may increase the dollar value of our sales because many of our products are sold at our cost plus a percentage markup. When the rate of inflation declines or we experience deflation, as we experienced during portions of 2012, the dollar value of our sales may fall despite our unit sales remaining constant or growing. For those of our products that we price on a fixed fee-per-case basis, our gross profit margins may be negatively affected in an inflationary environment, even though our gross revenues may be positively impacted. While we cannot predict whether inflation will continue at current levels, prolonged periods of inflation leading to cost increases above levels that we are able to pass along to our customers, either overall or in certain product categories, may have a negative impact on us and our customers, as elevated food costs can reduce consumer spending in the food-away-from-home market and may negatively impact our sales, gross margins and earnings.

Given our wide selection of product categories, as well as the continuous introduction of new products, we can experience shifts in product sales mix that have an impact on net sales and gross profit margins. This mix shift is most significantly impacted by the introduction of new categories of products in markets that we have more recently entered, the shift in product mix resulting from acquisitions, as well as the continued growth

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in item penetration on higher velocity items such as dairy products.

The foodservice distribution industry is fragmented and consolidating. Over the past five years, we have supplemented our internal growth through selective strategic acquisitions. We believe that the consolidation trends in the foodservice distribution industry will continue to present acquisition opportunities for us, which may allow us to grow our business at a faster pace than we would otherwise be able to grow the business organically.

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The following table presents, for the periods indicated, certain income and expense items expressed as a percentage of net sales:

| | 13 Weeks Ended | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | March 29, 2013 | March 30, 2012 |
| Net sales | 100.0% | 100.0% |
| Cost of sales | 74.8% | 73.4% |
| Gross profit | 25.2% | 26.6% |
| Operating expenses | 21.0% | 21.4% |
| Operating income | 4.2% | 5.2% |
| Other expense: | | |
| Interest expense | 1.0% | 0.6% |
| Total other expense | 1.0% | 0.6% |
| Income before income tax expense | 3.2% | 4.6% |
| Provision for income taxes | 1.3% | 1.9% |
| Net income | 1.9% | 2.7% |

Management evaluates the results of operations and cash flows using a variety of key performance indicators, including revenues compared to prior periods and internal forecasts, costs of our products and results of our cost-control initiatives, and use of operating cash. These indicators are discussed throughout the Results of Operations and Liquidity and Capital Resources sections of this MD&A.

13 Weeks Ended March 29, 2013 Compared to 13 Weeks Ended March 30, 2012***Net Sales***

Our net sales for the 13 weeks ended March 29, 2013 increased approximately 42.2%, or \$41,350, to \$139,419 from \$98,069 for the 13 weeks ended March 30, 2012. Acquisitions contributed the majority of this growth, or approximately \$35,659 of the total sales growth. Organic growth, which contributed approximately \$5,691 of the total sales growth, was positively impacted by approximately 3.1% of inflation, primarily in the dairy and cheese categories.

Gross Profit

Gross profit increased approximately 35.0%, or \$9,105, to \$35,154 for the 13 weeks ended March 29, 2013, from \$26,049 for the 13 weeks ended March 30, 2012. Gross profit margins decreased by 135 basis points to 25.2% for the first quarter of 2013 compared to 26.6% for the prior year comparable quarter. The decline in gross margins was due in large part to the impact on our sales mix resulting from the acquisitions of Queensgate, Michael's and Praml.

Operating Expenses

Total operating expenses increased by approximately 39.4%, or \$8,266, to \$29,257 for the 13 weeks ended March 29, 2013 from \$20,991 for the 13 weeks ended March 30, 2012. As a percentage of net sales, operating expenses for the 13 weeks ended March 29, 2013 were 21.0%, down 42 basis points from the 13 weeks ended March 30, 2012. The decrease in our operating expense ratio is attributable to transportation efficiencies offset by increased amortization expense related to the Company's acquisitions and duplicate rent related to the Company's Bronx, NY facility.

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Operating Income

Operating income increased by approximately 16.6%, or \$839, to \$5,897 for the 13 weeks ended March 29, 2013 from \$5,058 for the 13 weeks ended March 30, 2012. The increase in operating income is reflective of higher sales levels, offset in part by higher operating costs. As a percentage of net sales, operating income decreased to 4.2% for the 13 weeks ended March 29, 2013 from 5.2% for the 13 weeks ended March 30, 2012.

Other Expense

Total other expense increased \$818 to \$1,367 for the 13 weeks ended March 29, 2013 from \$549 for the 13 weeks ended March 30, 2012. This increase was entirely attributable to an increase in interest expense resulting from higher debt levels used to finance the Praml, Michael's and Queensgate acquisitions.

Provision for Income Taxes

For the 13 weeks ended March 29, 2013, we recorded an effective income tax rate of 41.6%. For the 13 weeks ended March 30, 2012, our effective income tax rate was 41.6%.

Net Income

Reflecting the factors described above, net income increased \$15 to \$2,647 for the 13 weeks ended March 29, 2013 from \$2,633 for the 13 weeks ended March 30, 2012.

Table of Contents**LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES**

We finance our day-to-day operations and growth primarily with cash flows from operations, borrowings under our senior secured credit facilities, operating leases, trade payables and bank indebtedness. We believe that our cash on hand and available credit through our existing revolving credit facility as discussed below is sufficient for our operations and planned capital expenditures over the next twelve months. Depending on our acquisition pipeline and related opportunities, we may need to obtain additional debt or equity financing, which may include longer-term, fixed-rate debt, in order to complete those acquisitions.

On April 25, 2012, Dairyland USA Corporation, The Chefs' Warehouse Mid-Atlantic, LLC, Bel Canto Foods, LLC, The Chefs' Warehouse West Coast, LLC, The Chefs' Warehouse of Florida, LLC (each a Borrower and collectively, the Borrowers), the Company and Chefs' Warehouse Parent, LLC (together with the Company, the Guarantors) entered into a senior secured credit facility (the Credit Agreement) with the lenders from time to time party thereto, JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. (Chase), as administrative agent, and the other parties thereto. On August 29, 2012, Michael's Finer Meats Holdings, LLC and Michael's Finer Meats, LLC were each added as a Guarantor under the Credit Agreement. On January 24, 2013, The Chefs' Warehouse Midwest, LLC was added as a Guarantor under the Credit Agreement.

On April 17, 2013, the Borrowers, the Guarantors and the lenders a party thereto entered into an Amendment and Restatement Agreement to amend and restate the Credit Agreement (the Amended and Restated Credit Agreement). The Amended and Restated Credit Agreement provides for a senior secured term loan facility (the Term Loan Facility) in the aggregate amount of up to \$36,000 (the loans thereunder, the Term Loans) and a senior secured revolving loan facility (the Revolving Credit Facility and, together with the Term Loan Facility, the Credit Facilities) of up to an aggregate amount of \$140,000 (the loans thereunder, the Revolving Credit Loans), of which up to \$5,000 is available for letters of credit and up to \$3,000 is available for short-term borrowings on a swingline basis. Unutilized commitments under the Revolving Credit Facility portion of the Amended and Restated Credit Agreement are subject to a per annum fee of from 0.35% to 0.45% based on the Leverage Ratio (as defined below). A fronting fee of 0.25% per annum is payable on the face amount of each letter of credit issued under the Credit Facilities.

The final maturity of the Term Loans is April 25, 2017. Subject to adjustment for prepayments, we are required to make quarterly principal payments on the Term Loans on June 30, September 30, December 31 and March 31, with each quarterly payment equal to \$1,500, with the remaining balance due upon maturity.

Borrowings under the Revolving Credit Facility portion of the Amended and Restated Credit Agreement have been used, and are expected to be used, for capital expenditures, permitted acquisitions, working capital and general corporate purposes of the Borrowers. The commitments under the Revolving Credit Facility expire on April 25, 2017 and any Revolving Credit Loans then outstanding will be payable in full at that time. As of March 29, 2013, we had \$52,680 of availability under the revolving credit facility portion of the Credit Agreement that was amended and restated on April 17, 2013.

Prior to its amendment and restatement, borrowings under the Credit Facilities bore interest at the Company's option of either (i) the alternate base rate (representing the greatest of (1) Chase's prime rate, (2) the federal funds effective rate for overnight borrowings plus 1/2 of 1% and (3) the Adjusted LIBO Rate for one month plus 2.50%) plus in each case the applicable margin of 0.50% for Revolving Credit Loans or Term Loans or (ii), in the case of Eurodollar Borrowings (as defined in the Credit Agreement), the Adjusted LIBO Rate plus the applicable margin of 3.0% for Revolving Credit Loans or Term Loans.

Borrowings under the Amended and Restated Credit Agreement bear interest at our option of either (i) the alternate base rate (representing the greatest of (1) Chase's prime rate, (2) the federal funds effective rate for overnight borrowings plus 1/2 of 1.00% and (3) the adjusted LIBO rate for one month plus 2.50%) plus in each case an applicable margin of from 1.75% to 2.25%, based on the Leverage Ratio (as defined below), or (ii) in the case of Eurodollar Borrowings (as defined in the Amended and Restated Credit Agreement), the adjusted LIBO rate plus an applicable margin of from 2.75% to 3.25%, based on the Leverage Ratio. The LIBO rate is the rate for eurodollar deposits for a period equal to one, three or six months (as selected by the applicable Borrower) appearing on Reuters Screen LIBOR01 Page (or any successor or substitute page on such screen), at approximately 11:00 a.m. London time, two business days prior to the commencement of the applicable interest period.

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The Credit Agreement included financial covenants that required (i) the ratio of our consolidated EBITDA (as defined in the Credit Agreement) minus the unfinanced portion of capital expenditures to our consolidated fixed charges on a trailing twelve month basis as of the end of each of our fiscal quarters to be not less than 1.25 to 1.00 and (ii) the ratio of the Company's consolidated total indebtedness to our consolidated EBITDA (as defined in the Credit Agreement) for the then trailing twelve months to be no greater than (A) 3.50 to 1.00 for any fiscal quarter ending in our 2012 and 2013 fiscal years, (B) 3.25 to 1.00 for any fiscal quarter ending in our 2014 and 2015 fiscal years and (C) 3.00 to 1.00 for any of our fiscal quarters ending thereafter.

The Amended and Restated Credit Agreement includes financial covenants that require (i) the ratio of our consolidated EBITDA (as defined in the Amended and Restated Credit Agreement) minus the unfinanced portion of capital expenditures to our consolidated Fixed Charges (as defined in the Amended and Restated Credit Agreement) on a trailing twelve month basis as of the end of each of our fiscal quarters to not be less than (A) 1.15 to 1.00 for the period from the effective date of the Amended and Restated Credit Agreement through June 30, 2014 and (B) 1.25 to 1.00 for the period from September 30, 2014 and thereafter and (ii) the ratio of our consolidated Total Indebtedness (as defined in the Amended and Restated Credit Agreement) to our consolidated EBITDA (the Leverage Ratio) for the then-trailing twelve months to not be greater than (A) 4.00 to 1.00 for any fiscal quarter ending in the period from the effective date of the Amended and Restated Credit Agreement through December 31, 2013, (B) 3.75 to 1.00 for any fiscal quarter ending in the period from March 31, 2014 to December 31, 2014 and (C) 3.50 to 1.00 for any fiscal quarter ending March 31, 2015 and thereafter.

On April 26, 2012, Dairyland HP LLC (DHP), an indirectly wholly-owned subsidiary of ours, entered into a financing arrangement under the New Markets Tax Credit (NMTC) program under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, pursuant to which Commercial Lending II LLC (CLII), a community development entity and a subsidiary of JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A., provided to DHP an \$11,000 construction loan (the NMTC Loan) to help fund DHP's expansion and build-out of our Bronx, New York facility and the rail shed located at that facility, which construction is required under the facility lease agreement.

Under the NMTC Loan, DHP is obligated to pay CLII (i) monthly interest payments on the principal balance then outstanding and (ii) the entire unpaid principal balance then due and owing on April 26, 2017. So long as DHP is not in default, interest accrues on borrowings at 1.00% per annum. We may prepay the NMTC Loan, in whole or in part, in \$100 increments, after March 15, 2014.

Borrowings under the NMTC Loan are secured by a first priority secured lien on DHP's leasehold interest in our Bronx, New York facility, including all improvements made on the premises, as well as, among other things, a lien on all fixtures incorporated into the project improvements.

For more information regarding the NMTC Loan, see Note 10 to the condensed consolidated financial statements appearing elsewhere in this report.

On April 17, 2013, the Borrowers issued \$100,000 principal amount of 5.90% Guaranteed Senior Secured Notes due 2023 (the Notes). The Notes are guaranteed by the Guarantors and Michael's, Michael's Finer Meats Holdings, LLC and The Chefs' Warehouse Midwest, LLC (collectively, the Notes Guarantors). The net proceeds from the issuance of the Notes were used to repay outstanding borrowings under the Revolving Credit Facility.

The Notes, which rank pari passu with the Borrowers' and Notes Guarantors' obligations under the Credit Facilities, were issued to The Prudential Insurance Company of America and certain of its affiliates (collectively, the Prudential Entities) pursuant to a note purchase and guarantee agreement dated as of April 17, 2013 (the Note Purchase and Guarantee Agreement) among the Borrowers, the Notes Guarantors and the Prudential Entities.

The Notes must be repaid in two equal installments, the first \$50,000 of which is due April 17, 2018 and the second \$50,000 of which is due at maturity on April 17, 2023. Moreover, the Borrowers may prepay the Notes in amounts not less than \$1,000 at 100% of the principal amount of the Notes repaid plus the applicable Make-Whole Amount (as defined in the Note Purchase and Guarantee Agreement).

The Note Purchase and Guarantee Agreement contains financial covenants related to leverage and fixed charges that are the same as the corresponding provisions in the Amended and Restated Credit Agreement.

We believe that our capital expenditures, excluding cash paid for acquisitions, for fiscal 2013 will be approximately \$25,000, of which \$11,000 will be funded with the restricted cash from the NMTC Loan. The significant increase in projected capital expenditures in 2013 when compared to 2012 capital expenditures is being driven by the renovation and expansion of our newly leased Bronx, New York distribution facility, which we expect will run approximately \$21,000 for the year. Recurring capital expenditures will be financed with cash generated from operations and borrowings under our Revolving Credit Facility. Our planned capital projects will provide both new and expanded facilities and improvements

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to our technology that we believe will produce increased efficiency and the capacity to continue to support the growth of our customer base. Future investments and acquisitions will be financed through either internally generated cash flow, borrowings under our senior secured credit facilities in place at the time of the potential acquisition or issuance of equity or debt securities, including, but not limited to, longer term, fixed rate debt securities and shares of our common stock.

Net cash provided by operations was \$13,458 for the 13 weeks ended March 29, 2013, an increase of \$8,684 from the \$4,774 provided by operations for the 13 weeks ended March 30, 2012. The primary reason for the increase was an increase of \$5,892 in cash provided by working capital. In addition, depreciation and amortization and deferred taxes provided \$1,138 and \$1,324 additional cash in the 13 weeks ended March 29, 2013 and March 30, 2012, respectively.

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Net cash used in investing activities was \$23,265 for the 13 weeks ended March 29, 2013, an increase of \$22,553 from the \$712 used in investing activities for the 13 weeks ended March 30, 2012. The increase was primarily due to the acquisition of Queensgate in 2013.

Net cash provided by financing activities was \$10,924 for the 13 weeks ended March 29, 2013, an increase of \$14,974 from the \$4,050 used in financing activities for the 13 weeks ended March 30, 2012. The increase was primarily due to increased net borrowings on our Revolving Credit Facility, which were used to fund the Queensgate acquisition and the use of restricted cash to fund the renovation and expansion of our new Bronx, NY distribution facility.

Seasonality

Generally, we do not experience any material seasonality. However, our sales and operating results may vary from quarter to quarter due to factors such as changes in our operating expenses, management's ability to execute our operating and growth strategies, personnel changes, demand for our products, supply shortages and general economic conditions.

Inflation

Our profitability is dependent, among other things, on our ability to anticipate and react to changes in the costs of key operating resources, including food and other raw materials, labor, energy and other supplies and services. Substantial increases in costs and expenses could impact our operating results to the extent that such increases cannot be passed along to our customers. The impact of inflation on food, labor, energy and occupancy costs can significantly affect the profitability of our operations.

Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates

The preparation of our consolidated financial statements requires us to make estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses, and related disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. The SEC has defined critical accounting policies as those that are both most important to the portrayal of our financial condition and results and require our most difficult, complex or subjective judgments or estimates. Based on this definition, we believe our critical accounting policies include the following: (i) determining our allowance for doubtful accounts, (ii) inventory valuation, with regard to determining our reserve for excess and obsolete inventory, (iii) valuing goodwill and intangible assets, (iv) vendor rebates and other promotional incentives, (v) self-insurance reserves and (vi) income taxes. For all financial statement periods presented, there have been no material modifications to the application of these critical accounting policies.

Allowance for Doubtful Accounts

We analyze customer creditworthiness, accounts receivable balances, payment history, payment terms and historical bad debt levels when evaluating the adequacy of our allowance for doubtful accounts. In instances where a reserve has been recorded for a particular customer, future sales to the customer are either conducted using cash-on-delivery terms or the account is closely monitored so that agreed-upon payments are received prior to orders being released. A failure to pay results in held or cancelled orders. Our accounts receivable balance was \$53,306 and \$56,694, net of the allowance for doubtful accounts of \$3,501 and \$3,440, as of March 29, 2013 and December 28, 2012, respectively.

Inventory Valuation

We maintain reserves for slow-moving and obsolete inventories. These reserves are primarily based upon inventory age plus specifically identified inventory items and overall economic conditions. A sudden and unexpected change in consumer preferences or change in overall economic conditions could result in a significant change in the reserve balance and could require a corresponding charge to earnings. We actively manage our inventory levels to minimize the risk of loss and have consistently achieved a relatively high level of inventory turnover.

Valuation of Goodwill and Intangible Assets

We are required to test goodwill for impairment at least annually and between annual tests if events occur or circumstances change that would more likely than not reduce the fair value of a reporting unit below its carrying amount. We have elected to perform our annual tests for indications of goodwill impairment during the fourth quarter of each fiscal year. We test for goodwill impairment at the consolidated level, as we aggregate our reporting units into a single reporting unit, based on the market capitalization

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approach. The goodwill impairment analysis is a two-step test. The first step, used to identify potential impairment, involves comparing our estimated fair value to our carrying value, including goodwill. If our estimated fair value exceeds our carrying value, goodwill is considered not to be impaired. If the carrying value exceeds estimated fair value, there is an indication of potential impairment and the second step is performed to measure the amount of impairment. If required, the second step involves calculating an implied fair value of our goodwill. The implied fair value of goodwill is determined in a manner similar to the amount of goodwill calculated in a business combination, by measuring the excess of the estimated fair value, as determined in the first step, over the aggregate estimated fair values of the individual assets, liabilities and identifiable intangibles as if we were being acquired in a business combination. If the implied fair value of our goodwill exceeds the carrying value of our goodwill, there is no impairment. If the carrying value of our goodwill exceeds the implied fair value of our goodwill, an impairment charge is recorded for the excess.

When analyzing whether to aggregate the above geographical components into one reporting unit, the Company considers whether each geographical component has similar economic characteristics. The Company has evaluated the economic characteristics of its different geographic markets, including its recently acquired businesses, along with the similarity of the operations and margins, nature of the products, type of customer and methods of distribution of products and the regulatory environment in which the Company operates and concluded that the geographical components continue to be one reporting unit.

In 2012, our annual assessment indicated that we are not at risk of failing step one of the goodwill impairment test and no impairment of goodwill existed, as our fair value exceeded our carrying value. We have noted no indicators of impairment in 2013. Total goodwill as of March 29, 2013 and December 28, 2012 was \$59,210, and \$45,359, respectively.

Intangible assets with finite lives are tested for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable. Cash flows expected to be generated by the related assets are estimated over the assets' useful lives based on updated projections. If the evaluation indicates that the carrying amount of the asset may not be recoverable, the potential impairment is measured based on a projected discounted cash flow model. There have been no events or changes in circumstances during 2013 or 2012 indicating that the carrying value of our finite-lived intangible assets are not recoverable. Total finite-lived intangible assets as of March 29, 2013 and December 28, 2012 were \$39,548 and \$35,708, respectively.

The assessment of the recoverability of goodwill and intangible assets will be impacted if estimated future cash flows are not achieved.

Vendor Rebates and Other Promotional Incentives

We participate in various rebate and promotional incentives with our suppliers, including volume and growth rebates, annual incentives and promotional programs. In accounting for vendor rebates, we follow the guidance in Accounting Standards Codification 605-50 (Emerging Issues Task Force, or EITF, No. 02-16, *Accounting by a Customer (Including a Reseller) for Certain Consideration Received from a Vendor* and EITF No. 03-10, *Application of Issue No. 02-16 by Resellers to Sales Incentives Offered to Consumers by Manufacturers*).

We generally record consideration received under these incentives as a reduction of cost of goods sold; however, in certain circumstances, we record marketing-related consideration as a reduction of marketing costs incurred. We may receive consideration in the form of cash and/or invoice deductions.

We record consideration that we receive for volume and growth rebates and annual incentives as a reduction of cost of goods sold. We systematically and rationally allocate the consideration for those incentives to each of the underlying transactions that results in progress by us toward earning the incentives. If the incentives are not probable and reasonably estimable, we record the incentives as the underlying objectives or milestones are achieved. We record annual incentives when we earn them, generally over the agreement period. We record consideration received to promote and sell the suppliers' products as a reduction of our costs, as the consideration is typically a reimbursement of costs incurred by us. If we received consideration from the suppliers in excess of our costs, we record any excess as a reduction of cost of goods sold.

Self-Insurance Reserves

Effective October 1, 2011, we began maintaining a partially self-insured group medical program. The program contains individual as well as aggregate stop loss thresholds. The amount in excess of the self-insured levels are fully insured by third party insurers. Liabilities associated with this program are estimated in part by considering historical claims experience and

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medical cost trends. Projections of future loss expenses are inherently uncertain because of the random nature of insurance claims occurrences and could be significantly affected if future occurrences and claims differ from these assumptions and historical trends.

Effective August 1, 2012, we are self-insured for workers' compensation and automobile liability claims to deductibles or self-insured retentions of \$350 for workers' compensation claims per occurrence and \$250 for automobile liability claims per occurrence. The amounts in excess of our deductibles are fully insured by third party insurers. Liabilities associated with this program are estimated in part by considering historical claims experience and trends. Projections of future loss expenses are inherently uncertain because of the random nature of insurance claims occurrences and could be significantly affected if future occurrences and claims differ from these assumptions and historical trends.

Income Taxes

The determination of our provision for income taxes requires significant judgment, the use of estimates and the interpretation and application of complex tax laws. Our provision for income taxes primarily reflects a combination of income earned and taxed in the various U.S. federal and state jurisdictions. Jurisdictional tax law changes, increases or decreases in permanent differences between book and tax items, accruals or adjustments of accruals for unrecognized tax benefits, and our change in the mix of earnings from these taxing jurisdictions all affect the overall effective tax rate.

Management has discussed the development and selection of these critical accounting policies with our Audit Committee, and the Audit Committee has reviewed the above disclosure. Our condensed consolidated financial statements contain other items that require estimation, but are not as critical as those discussed above. These other items include our calculations for bonus accruals, depreciation and amortization. Changes in estimates and assumptions used in these and other items could have an effect on our condensed consolidated financial statements.

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ITEM 3 - QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

Interest Rate Risk

On April 25, 2012, the Borrowers and the Guarantors entered into the Credit Agreement with the lenders from time to time party thereto, Chase, as Administrative Agent, and the other parties thereto. On April 17, 2013, the Borrowers and Guarantors entered into the Amended and Restated Credit Agreement. Each of the Credit Agreement and Amended and Restated Credit Agreement is described in more detail above under the caption "Liquidity and Capital Resources" in the MD&A. Our primary market risks are related to fluctuations in interest rates related to borrowings under our current credit facilities.

As of March 29, 2013, we had an aggregate \$121,500 of indebtedness outstanding under the Revolving Credit Facility and Term Loan Facility that bore interest at variable rates. A 100 basis point increase in market interest rates would decrease our after tax earnings by approximately \$711 per annum, holding other variables constant.

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ITEM 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures

Our management, with the participation of our chief executive officer and chief financial officer, evaluated the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures pursuant to Rule 13a-15 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act), as of the end of the period covered by this Form 10-Q. The evaluation included certain internal control areas in which we have made and are continuing to make changes to improve and enhance controls. In designing and evaluating the disclosure controls and procedures, management recognized that any controls and procedures, no matter how well designed and operated, can provide only reasonable assurance of achieving the desired control objectives. In addition, the design of disclosure controls and procedures must reflect the fact that there are resource constraints and that management is required to apply its judgment in evaluating the benefits of possible controls and procedures relative to their costs.

Based on that evaluation, our chief executive officer and chief financial officer concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective at the end of the period covered by this Form 10-Q to provide reasonable assurance that information we are required to disclose in reports that we file or submit under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in SEC rules and forms, and that such information 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

There were no changes in our internal control over financial reporting during the most recent fiscal period that may have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

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PART II. OTHER INFORMATION

ITEM 1. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

We are involved in legal proceedings, claims and litigation arising out of the ordinary conduct of our business. Although we cannot assure the outcome, management presently believes that the result of such legal proceedings, either individually or in the aggregate, will not have a material adverse effect on our consolidated financial statements, and no material amounts have been accrued in our consolidated financial statements with respect to these matters.

ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS

Except as otherwise set forth below, there have been no material changes with respect to the risk factors disclosed in our Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the SEC on March 13, 2013.

The price of our common stock may be volatile and our stockholders could lose all or part of their investment.

Volatility in the market price of our common stock may prevent our stockholders from being able to sell their shares at or above the price the stockholders paid for their shares. The market price of our common stock could fluctuate significantly for various reasons, which include the following:

our quarterly or annual earnings or those of other companies in our industry;

changes in laws or regulations, or new interpretations or applications of laws and regulations, that are applicable to our business;

the public's reaction to our press releases, our other public announcements and our filings with the SEC;

changes in accounting standards, policies, guidance, interpretations or principles;

additions or departures of our senior management personnel;

sales of common stock by our directors and executive officers;

adverse market reaction to any indebtedness we may incur or securities we may issue in the future;

actions by stockholders;

the level and quality of research analyst coverage for our common stock, changes in financial estimates or investment recommendations by securities analysts following our business or failure to meet such estimates;

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the financial disclosure we may provide to the public, any changes in such disclosure or our failure to meet projections included in our public disclosure;

various market factors or perceived market factors, including rumors, whether or not correct, involving us, our customers, our distributors or suppliers or our competitors;

introductions of new products or new pricing policies by us or by our competitors;

acquisitions or strategic alliances by us or our competitors;

short sales, hedging and other derivative transactions in our common stock;

the operating and stock price performance of other companies that investors may deem comparable to us; and

other events or factors, including changes in general conditions in the United States and global economies or financial markets (including those resulting from acts of God, war, incidents of terrorism or responses to such events).

In addition, in recent years, the stock market has experienced extreme price and volume fluctuations. This volatility has had a significant impact on the market price of securities issued by many companies, including companies in our industry. The price of our common stock could fluctuate based upon factors that have little or nothing to do with our company, and these fluctuations could materially reduce our stock price.

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

| | Total Number of Shares Repurchased (1) | Average Price Paid Per Share | Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs | Maximum Number (or Approximate Dollar Value) of Shares That May Yet Be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|---|---|
| December 29, 2012 to January 25, 2013 | 1,629 | \$ 15.71 | | |
| January 26, 2013 to February 22, 2013 | | | | |
| February 23, 2013 to March 29, 2013 | 1,962 | \$ 18.07 | | |
| Total | 3,591 | \$ 17.06 | | |

(1) During the quarter ended March 29, 2013, we withheld 3,590 shares to satisfy tax withholding requirements upon the vesting of restricted shares of our common stock awarded to 16 of our officers and key employees.

ITEM 3. DEFAULTS UPON SENIOR SECURITIES

None.

ITEM 4. MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES

None.

ITEM 5. OTHER INFORMATION

None.

Table of Contents**ITEM 6. EXHIBITS**

| Exhibit No. | Description |
|-------------|---|
| 10.1 | Amendment and Restatement Agreement, dated as of April 17, 2013, to the Credit Agreement, dated as of April 25, 2012, by and among Dairyland USA Corporation, The Chefs Warehouse Mid-Atlantic, LLC, Bel Canto Foods, LLC, The Chefs Warehouse West Coast, LLC, and The Chefs Warehouse of Florida, LLC, as Borrowers, the other Loan Parties thereto, the Lenders party thereto, and JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A., as Administrative Agent and Collateral Agent. |
| 10.2 | Amended and Restated Pledge and Security Agreement, dated April 25, 2012, as amended and restated as of April 17, 2013, by and among Dairyland USA Corporation, The Chefs Warehouse Mid-Atlantic, LLC, Bel Canto Foods, LLC, The Chefs Warehouse West Coast, LLC, The Chefs Warehouse of Florida, LLC, The Chefs Warehouse, Inc., Chefs Warehouse Parent, LLC, Michael's Finer Meats, LLC, Michael's Finer Meats Holdings, LLC, The Chefs Warehouse Midwest, LLC, and the other Subsidiaries of The Chefs Warehouse, Inc. that become party thereto after the date thereof, as Grantors, and JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A., as Collateral Agent. |
| 10.3 | Note Purchase and Guarantee Agreement, dated as of April 17, 2013, by and among Dairyland USA Corporation, The Chefs Warehouse Mid-Atlantic, LLC, Bel Canto Foods, LLC, The Chefs Warehouse West Coast, LLC, and The Chefs Warehouse of Florida, LLC, as Issuers, The Chefs Warehouse, Inc., Chefs Warehouse Parent, LLC, The Chefs Warehouse Midwest, LLC, Michael's Finer Meats Holdings, LLC, and Michael's Finer Meats, LLC, as the Initial Guarantors, The Prudential Insurance Company of America, Pruco Life Insurance Company, Prudential Arizona Reinsurance Captive Company, and Prudential Retirement Insurance and Annuity Company. |
| 10.4 | Form of Note. |
| 31.1 | Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. |
| 31.2 | Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. |
| 32.1 | Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. |
| 32.2 | Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. |
| 101.INS | XBRL Instance Document* |
| 101.SCH | XBRL Schema Document* |
| 101.CAL | XBRL Calculation Linkbase Document* |
| 101.LAB | XBRL Label Linkbase Document* |
| 101.PRE | XBRL Presentation Linkbase Document* |

* Users of this data are advised pursuant to Rule 406T of Regulation S-T that this interactive data file is deemed not filed or part of a registration statement or prospectus for purposes of Sections 11 or 12 of the Securities Act of 1933, is deemed not filed for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, and otherwise is not subject to liability under these sections. Certain confidential portions of this exhibit were omitted by means of redacting a portion of the text. This exhibit has been filed separately with the Securities and Exchange Commission accompanied by a confidential treatment request pursuant to Rule 24b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

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SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) 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 on May 7, 2013.

THE CHEFS WAREHOUSE, INC.
(Registrant)

May 7, 2013

Date

/s/ John D. Austin

John D. Austin

Chief Financial Officer

(Principal Financial Officer and Principal Accounting Officer)

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