

TALK AMERICA HOLDINGS INC  
Form 10-Q  
November 09, 2006

**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
Washington, D.C. 20549

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**FORM 10-Q**

**(Mark One)**

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

**For the quarterly period ended September 30, 2006**

**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 000 - 26728**

**Talk America Holdings, Inc.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Delaware**  
(State of incorporation)

**23-2827736**  
(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

**6805 Route 202, New Hope, Pennsylvania**  
(Address of principal executive offices)

**18938**  
(Zip Code)

**(215) 862-1500**  
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

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

Yes  No

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

Large accelerated filer  Accelerated filer  Non-accelerated filer

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

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

30,777,186 shares of Common Stock, par value of \$0.01 per share, were issued and outstanding as of November 8, 2006.

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**TALK AMERICA HOLDINGS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**

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**TALK AMERICA HOLDINGS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS**  
(In thousands, except for per share data)  
(Unaudited)

	<b>Three Months Ended</b>		<b>Nine Months Ended</b>	
	<b>September 30,</b>		<b>September 30,</b>	
	<b>2006</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2005</b>
Revenue	\$ 106,353	\$ 120,645	\$ 340,921	\$ 348,149
Costs and expenses:				
Network and line costs, excluding depreciation and amortization (see below)	54,542	64,413	178,629	181,090
General and administrative expenses	21,684	23,496	74,160	59,946
Provision for doubtful accounts	4,359	4,515	12,610	14,909
Sales and marketing expenses	11,958	7,294	35,900	21,335
Depreciation and amortization	11,084	11,618	34,235	30,734
Total costs and expenses	103,627	111,336	335,534	308,014
Operating income	2,726	9,309	5,387	40,135
Other income (expense):				
Interest income	254	199	768	873
Interest expense	(185)	(114)	(616)	(164)
Other income (expense), net	(11)	(5)	42	(361)
Income before provision for income taxes	2,784	9,389	5,581	40,483
Provision for income taxes	1,613	4,172	3,296	16,428
Net income	\$ 1,171	\$ 5,217	\$ 2,285	\$ 24,055
Income per share - Basic:				
Net income per share	\$ 0.04	\$ 0.18	\$ 0.08	\$ 0.86
Weighted average common shares outstanding	30,494	29,808	30,444	28,122
Income per share - Diluted:				
Net income per share	\$ 0.04	\$ 0.17	\$ 0.07	\$ 0.84
Weighted average common and common equivalent shares outstanding	30,673	30,357	30,624	28,796

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.



**TALK AMERICA HOLDINGS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS**  
(In thousands, except for share and per share data)  
(Unaudited)

	<b>September 30, 2006</b>	<b>December 31, 2005</b>
<b>Assets</b>		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 35,594	\$ 46,288
Restricted cash	1,920	--
Accounts receivable, trade (net of allowance for uncollectible accounts of \$14,740 and \$13,838 at September 30, 2006 and December 31, 2005, respectively)	36,602	43,600
Deferred income taxes	11,158	18,096
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	12,091	10,297
Total current assets	97,365	118,281
Property and equipment, net	92,160	98,492
Goodwill	36,479	36,479
Intangibles, net	3,160	4,934
Deferred income taxes	36,606	21,033
Capitalized software and other assets	11,448	9,470
Total assets	\$ 277,218	\$ 288,689
<b>Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity</b>		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 32,823	\$ 40,025
Sales, use and excise taxes	8,298	7,316
Deferred revenue	13,440	13,824
Current portion of long-term debt	2,554	3,988
Accrued compensation	5,057	9,405
Other current liabilities	8,482	12,933
Total current liabilities	70,654	87,491
Long-term debt	1,837	1,289
Deferred income taxes	83	4,853
Other liabilities	5,515	3,269
Commitments and contingencies		
Stockholders' equity:		
Preferred stock - \$.01 par value, 5,000,000 shares authorized; no shares outstanding	--	--
Common stock - \$.01 par value, 100,000,000 shares authorized; 31,842,321 and 31,684,056 shares issued and 30,508,638 and 30,368,267	318	317

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shares outstanding at September 30, 2006 and December 31, 2005,  
respectively

Additional paid-in capital	385,639	380,481
Accumulated deficit	(181,726)	(184,011)
Treasury stock - at cost, 1,333,683 and 1,315,789 shares at September 30, 2006 and December 31, 2005, respectively	(5,102)	(5,000)
Total stockholders' equity	199,129	191,787
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$ 277,218	\$ 288,689

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

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**TALK AMERICA HOLDINGS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**

(In thousands)  
(Unaudited)

	<b>Nine Months Ended</b>	
	<b>September 30,</b>	
	<b>2006</b>	<b>2005</b>
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Net income	\$ 2,285	\$ 24,055
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Provision for doubtful accounts	12,610	14,909
Depreciation and amortization	34,235	30,734
Deferred income taxes	1,047	13,341
Stock-based compensation	4,172	--
Other non-cash charges	456	359
Changes in assets and liabilities, net of effect of acquisition:		
Accounts receivable, trade	(1,169)	726
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	1,340	1,745
Other assets	49	80
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	(11,278)	(19,835)
Sales, use and excise taxes	22	(4,553)
Deferred revenue	(2,405)	(3,156)
Accrued compensation	(9,008)	(1,563)
Other liabilities	(6,194)	(162)
Net cash provided by operating activities	26,162	56,680
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets	675	63
Acquisitions, net of cash acquired (See note 5)	(16,485)	(26,850)
Capital expenditures	(15,377)	(35,220)
Capitalized software development costs	(4,172)	(2,946)
Decreases in restricted cash	1,375	--
Net cash used in investing activities	(33,984)	(64,953)
Cash flows from financing activities:		
Tax benefit of stock based compensation	430	--
Payments of capital lease obligations	(3,667)	(1,586)
Proceeds from exercise of options and warrants	365	4,685
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	(2,872)	3,099
Net change in cash and cash equivalents	(10,694)	(5,174)
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period	46,288	47,492
Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	\$ 35,594	\$ 42,318

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.



**TALK AMERICA HOLDINGS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**(Unaudited)**

**NOTE 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**(a) Basis of Financial Statements Presentation**

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Talk America Holdings, Inc. and its wholly-owned subsidiaries (collectively, "Talk America," "we," "our" and "us"). All intercompany balances and transactions have been eliminated.

The consolidated financial statements and related notes thereto as of September 30, 2006 and for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006 and September 30, 2005 are unaudited, but in the opinion of management include all adjustments necessary for a fair statement of the results for the periods presented. The consolidated balance sheet information for December 31, 2005 was derived from the audited financial statements included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2005 filed March 16, 2006, as amended by our Form 10-K/A filed March 28, 2006 (as so amended, our "2005 Form 10-K"). These interim financial statements should be read in conjunction with our 2005 Form 10-K. The interim results are not necessarily indicative of the results for any future periods.

**(b) Risks and Uncertainties**

Future results of operations involve a number of risks and uncertainties. Factors that could affect future operating results and cash flows and cause actual results to vary materially from historical results include, but are not limited to:

- Increased price and product competition in commercial and residential voice and data services, and overall competition within the telecommunications industry
- Our ability to successfully integrate businesses that we acquire, including but not limited to Network Telephone Corporation
  - Dependence on the availability and functionality of the networks of the incumbent local exchange carriers

On September 22, 2006 our board of directors approved a merger agreement providing for our acquisition by Cavalier Telephone Corporation that is discussed in paragraph (d) below. In addition to other factors and matters listed above, we believe the following factors could affect future operating results and cash flows:

- the risk that the merger may not be consummated in a timely manner if at all;
- the occurrence of any event, change or other circumstance that could give rise to the termination of the merger agreement;
- the outcome of the various legal proceedings against us that have been, and others that may be, instituted following announcement of the merger agreement;
  - risks related to diverting management's attention from ongoing business operations;
    - our dependence on key personnel;
    - risks regarding employee retention;
    - changes in regulatory requirements;
- the absence of certainty regarding the receipt of required regulatory approvals or the timing or terms of such regulatory approvals

**(c) Recent Accounting Pronouncements**

In June 2006, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued Interpretation No. 48, Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes ("FIN 48"). FIN 48 prescribes a "more likely than not" threshold for financial statement recognition and measurement of a tax position taken or expected to taken in a tax return. This Interpretation also provides guidance on other topics related to accounting for income tax assets and liabilities, interest and penalties associated with tax positions and income taxes in interim periods as well as income tax disclosures. This interpretation is effective as of January 1, 2007. We are currently evaluating FIN 48 and the related impact on our financial position and results of operations.

On September 15, 2006, the FASB issued FAS No. 157, "*Fair Value Measurements*," which provides guidance for using fair value to measure assets and liabilities. The standard also responds to investors' requests for more information about: (1) the extent to which companies measure assets and liabilities at fair value; (2) the information used to measure fair value; and (3) the effect that fair value measurements have on earnings. SFAS No. 157 will apply whenever another standard requires (or permits) assets or liabilities to be measured at fair value. The standard does not expand the use of fair value to any new circumstances. SFAS No. 157 is effective for the Company as of January 1, 2008. The Company is currently evaluating SFAS No. 157 and its effect on the Company's financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

#### **(d) Proposed Merger**

On September 22, 2006, the Company, Cavalier Telephone Corporation and Cavalier Acquisition Corp., an indirectly wholly owned subsidiary of Cavalier, entered into an Agreement and Plan of Merger. The merger agreement provides that, upon its terms and subject to its conditions, the Cavalier subsidiary will merge with and into us, and that, at the effective time and as a result of this Cavalier merger, (i) we will become an indirectly wholly owned subsidiary of Cavalier and (ii) each share of our common stock that is outstanding at the effective time of the merger will be converted into the right to receive \$8.10 in cash and each outstanding option or warrant to purchase our common stock with a per share exercise price lower than \$8.10 will be converted into the right to receive a cash amount equal to \$8.10 less the exercise price for such option or warrant, as the case may be, net of any applicable taxes.

Consummation of the Cavalier merger is subject to a number of conditions, including (i) approval by the Company's stockholders, (ii) receipt of applicable consents from the Federal Communications Commission, (iii) receipt of applicable approvals from state public service or utilities commissions (or similar state regulatory agencies) that regulate our business, (iv) expiration or termination of the applicable Hart-Scott-Rodino waiting period, (v) absence of any law or order prohibiting the consummation of the Merger, (vi) the Company's meeting of a minimum financial performance measure for the quarter ending September 30, 2006 and (vii) subject to certain specified exceptions, the absence of any material adverse effect with respect to our business. Subject to the satisfaction of the applicable conditions, we anticipate that the Cavalier merger will be consummated before December 31, 2006. On October 6, 2006, the Company filed its Hart-Scott-Rodino Notification and Report Form with the Antitrust Division and the Federal Trade Commission and we received notice that the waiting period had been terminated on October 16, 2006. The condition of meeting a minimum financial performance measure for the quarter ending September 30, 2006 has also been satisfied.

#### **NOTE 2. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES**

The Cavalier merger agreement contains provisions addressing the circumstances under which Cavalier or Talk America may terminate the merger agreement. In addition, the merger agreement provides that, in several circumstances, Talk America may be required to pay Cavalier a termination fee of \$6.25 million and up to \$1.25 million for reimbursable expenses. During the three months ended September 30, 2006, we have incurred \$0.8 million in merger-related costs, consisting of financial advisory fees, legal and other fees and costs associated with the Cavalier merger. As specified in the merger agreement, when and if the Cavalier merger is consummated, we are obligated to pay our financial advisor, The Blackstone Group, L.P. ("Blackstone") approximately \$2.4 million against which certain prior payments will be credited.

We are aware of certain asserted class actions related to the proposed Cavalier merger, which are against our individual directors and us, among others. Each alleges, among other things, that our directors have breached their fiduciary duty by accepting the Cavalier merger and generally seeks various forms of relief, including injunctive relief, including against the consummation of the merger, unspecified money damages and plaintiff's attorney fees and expenses. We believe that these law suits are without merit and plan to defend them vigorously. Additional lawsuits relating to the proposed merger could be filed in the future.

We are party to a number of legal actions and proceedings arising from our provision and marketing of telecommunications services (including matters involving do not call and billing regulations), as well as certain legal actions and regulatory matters arising in the ordinary course of business. We believe that the ultimate outcome of the foregoing actions will not result in a liability that would have a material adverse effect on our financial condition or results of operations.

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We are party to various network service agreements, which contain certain minimum usage commitments. In December 2003, we entered into a four-year master carrier agreement with AT&T. The agreement provides us with a variety of services, including transmission facilities to connect our network switches as well as services for international calls, local traffic, international calling cards, overflow traffic and operator assisted calls. The agreement also provides that, subject to certain terms and conditions, we will purchase these services exclusively from AT&T during the term of the agreement, provided, however, that we are not obligated to purchase exclusively in certain cases, including if such purchases would result in a breach of any contract with another carrier that was in place when we entered into the AT&T agreement or if vendor diversity is required. Our AT&T agreement establishes pricing and provides for annual minimum commitments based upon usage as follows: 2006 - \$32 million and 2007 - \$32 million and obligates us to pay 65 percent of the revenue shortfall, if any. In February 2006, we amended the AT&T agreement to provide that certain services that we purchase or may purchase from AT&T (and its affiliates) will now count toward the minimum commitment. Despite the reduction in our local residential bundled customer base, we anticipate that we will not be required to make any shortfall payments under this contract. In addition to the AT&T commitment, we have other commitments with various other vendors for telecommunication services as follows: 2006 - \$3.2 million, 2007 - \$3.5 million and 2008 and thereafter - \$2.2 million.

In addition, at September 30, 2006, we had outstanding purchase orders for capital expenditures of \$1.4 million. We have a contract with our invoice printing company that establishes pricing and provides for annual minimum payments as follows: 2006 - \$1.2 million, 2007 - \$1.2 million, and 2008 - \$1.3 million. During 2006, we renewed maintenance agreements that provide for payments as follows: 2006 - \$0.5 million, 2007 - \$0.8 million, 2008 - \$0.5 million and 2009 - \$0.1 million.

### **NOTE 3. STOCK-BASED COMPENSATION**

#### **(a) Compensation Expense**

Effective January 1, 2006, we adopted the provisions of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123R, ("SFAS 123R") "Share-Based Payment," which establishes accounting for equity instruments exchanged for employee services. SFAS 123R revised SFAS No. 123 "Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation" (SFAS 123) and superseded Accounting Principles Board Opinion No. 25 ("APB25"), "Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees," and related interpretations. Under the provisions of SFAS No. 123R, share-based compensation cost is measured at the grant date, based on the calculated fair value of the award, and is recognized as an expense over the employee's requisite service period (generally the vesting period of the equity grant). We elected to adopt the modified prospective application transition method as provided by SFAS No. 123R and, accordingly, financial statement amounts for the prior periods presented in this Form 10-Q have not been restated to reflect the fair value method of expensing share-based compensation. The stock-based compensation expense included in our consolidated statements of operations for the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2006 is \$1.0 and \$4.2 million, respectively. The full amount of this expense is reflected in "General and administrative expenses," where substantially all of the related payroll costs are classified. The related tax benefit recognized during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006 was \$0.4 and \$1.9 million. The total compensation cost capitalized during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006 was *de minimus*.

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The application of SFAS 123(R) had the following effect on reported amounts for the three months ended and nine months ended September 30, 2006, relative to amounts that would have been reported using the intrinsic value method under previous accounting (in millions, except per share amounts):

	Three Months Ended September 30, 2006			Nine Months Ended September 30, 2006		
	Using Previous Accounting	SFAS 123(R) Adjustments	As Reported	Using Previous Accounting	SFAS 123(R) Adjustments	As Reported
Operating income	\$ 3.7	\$ (1.0)	\$ 2.7	\$ 9.6	\$ (4.2)	\$ 5.4
Income before income taxes	\$ 3.8	\$ (1.0)	\$ 2.8	\$ 9.8	\$ (4.2)	\$ 5.6
Provision (benefit) for income taxes	\$ 2.0	\$ (0.4)	\$ 1.6	\$ 5.2	\$ (1.9)	\$ 3.3
Net income (loss)	\$ 1.8	\$ (0.6)	\$ 1.2	\$ 4.6	\$ (2.3)	\$ 2.3
Income (loss) per share- basic:	\$ 0.06	\$ (0.02)	\$ 0.04	\$ 0.16	\$ (0.08)	\$ 0.08
Income (loss) per share- diluted:	\$ 0.06	\$ (0.02)	\$ 0.04	\$ 0.15	\$ (0.08)	\$ 0.07
Cash flow from operating activities			\$ 26.6	\$ (0.4)	\$ 26.2	
Cash flow from financing activities			\$ (3.3)	\$ 0.4	\$ (2.9)	

Prior to January 1, 2006, we accounted for share-based compensation to employees in accordance with APB 25. We also followed the disclosure requirements of SFAS No. 123. The following table illustrates the effects on net income and earnings per share for the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2005 as if we had applied the fair value recognition provisions of SFAS 123 to share-based employee awards (in thousands, except per share data):

	Three Months Ended September 30, 2005	Nine Months Ended September 30, 2005
<b>Net income as reported</b>	\$ 5,217	\$ 24,055
<b>Add:</b> Stock-based employee compensation expense included in reported net income, net of tax effect	3 1,019	3 2,085

**Deduct:** Total stock-based employee compensation expense determined under fair value based method for all options, net of tax effect

<b>Pro forma net income</b>	\$	4,201	\$	21,973
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**Basic earnings per share:**

As reported	\$	0.18	\$	0.86
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Pro forma	\$	0.14	\$	0.78
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**Diluted earnings per share:**

As reported	\$	0.17	\$	0.84
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Pro forma	\$	0.14	\$	0.76
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For purposes of pro forma disclosures under SFAS 123, the estimated fair value of the options is assumed to be amortized to expense over the options' vesting period. The fair value of the options granted has been estimated at the various dates of the grants using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model with the following assumptions:

- Fair market value based on our closing common stock price on the date the option is granted;
- Expected option term of 5 years;
- Volatility based on the historical stock price over a period consistent with the expected term;
- Risk-free interest rate based on weighted averaged U.S. Treasury note strip rates for periods equal to the expected option term;
- No expected dividend yield based on future dividend payment plans.

The fair value of the options granted subsequent to the adoption of SFAS 123R has been estimated at the various dates of the grants using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model with the same assumptions, except that an expected option term of six years has been assumed, which has been determined using the simplified method.

**(b) Stock-Based Compensation Plans**

Incentive stock options, non-qualified stock options and other stock based awards may be granted by us to employees, directors and consultants under the 2005 Incentive Plan ("2005 Plan"), 2003 Long Term Incentive Plan ("2003 Plan"), 2000 Long Term Incentive Plan ("2000 Plan"), 1998 Long Term Incentive Plan ("1998 Plan") and otherwise in connection with employment and to employees under the 2001 Non-Officer Long Term Incentive Plan ("2001 Plan"). Generally, the options vest over a three-year period and expire ten years from the date of grant. At September 30, 2006: 562,500, 360,000, 404,543, 541 and 19,222 shares of common stock were available under the 2005 Plan, 2003 Plan, 2001 Plan, 2000 Plan, and 1998 Plan, respectively, for possible future issuances.

Stock options granted in 2005 and 2006 have contractual terms of 10 years. The options granted to employees have an exercise price equal to the fair market value of the stock on the grant date. The vast majority of options granted in 2005 and 2006 vest one-third each year, beginning on the first anniversary of the date of grant.

Information with respect to options under our plans is as follows:

	<b>Options Shares</b>	<b>Exercise Price Range Per Share</b>	<b>Weighted Average Exercise Price</b>
Outstanding, December 31, 2003	5,437,107	\$0.99-\$47.64	\$8.35
Granted	220,833	\$5.14-\$10.87	\$6.83
Exercised	(374,144)	\$1.05-\$6.81	\$1.75
Cancelled	(401,952)	\$1.32-\$29.63	\$12.86
Outstanding, December 31, 2004	4,881,844	\$0.99-\$47.64	\$8.41
Granted	1,670,000	\$6.22-\$9.57	\$8.52
Exercised	(1,240,706)	\$0.99 - \$10.49	\$2.43
Cancelled	(310,334)	\$1.11-\$30.38	\$10.28
Outstanding, December 31, 2005	5,000,804	\$1.20-\$47.64	\$9.82
Granted	317,500	\$6.02-\$9.04	\$8.72
Exercised	(108,265)	\$1.53-\$7.88	\$3.26
Cancelled	(229,870)	\$3.70-\$30.38	\$9.48
Outstanding, September 30, 2006	4,980,169	\$1.20-\$47.64	\$9.91

The following table summarizes the status of stock options outstanding at September 30, 2006:

<b>Range of Exercise Prices</b>	<b>Number Outstanding at September 30, 2006</b>	<b>Weighted Average Exercise Price</b>	<b>Weighted Average Remaining Contractual</b>	<b>Number Exercisable at September 30, 2006</b>	<b>Weighted Average Exercise Price</b>
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		Life (years)			
\$1.20-\$10.31	2,750,180	\$7.07	7.2	1,413,535	\$5.75
10.32-14.35	1,935,965	11.62	6.2	1,933,740	11.62
14.36-21.00	132,583	20.22	2.4	132,583	20.22
21.01-30.00	66,666	26.65	2.4	66,666	26.65
30.01-47.64	94,775	30.95	2.7	94,775	30.95
\$1.20-\$47.64	4,980,169	\$9.91	6.5	3,641,299	\$10.43

The weighted average estimated fair values of the stock options granted during the nine months ended September 30, 2006 and for the years ended December 31, 2005 and 2004 based on the Black-Scholes option pricing model were \$6.49, \$6.20, and \$4.99, respectively. The fair value of stock options used to compute pro forma net income (loss) and basic and diluted earnings (loss) per share disclosures is the estimated fair value at grant date using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model with the following assumptions:

Assumption	2006	2005	2004
Expected Term	6 years	5 years	5 years
Expected Volatility	85.83%	92.16%	93.82%
Expected Dividend Yield	--%	--%	--%
Risk-Free Interest Rate	4.46%	4.10%	3.49%

The aggregate intrinsic value of outstanding options as of September 30, 2006 was \$6.7 million, of which \$5.3 million were vested. The weighted average remaining contractual term of vested options is 5.7 years. The intrinsic value of options exercised during the nine months ended September 30, 2006 was \$0.4 million. For the nine months ended September 30, 2006, the cash received from options and warrants exercised and the related tax benefit realized from income tax deductions was \$0.4 million and \$0.4 million, respectively.

The following table summarizes the status of the Company's nonvested shares since January 1, 2006:

	Number of Shares	Weighted Average Fair Value
Nonvested at January 1, 2006	1,763,572	\$ 6.14
Granted	317,500	6.49
Vested	(578,463)	6.16
Forfeited	(163,739)	6.28
Nonvested at September 30, 2006	1,338,870	\$ 6.20

As of September 30, 2006, there was \$4.1 million of total unrecognized compensation cost related to nonvested share-based compensation arrangements granted under the Company's stock plans. That cost is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average period of 1.7 years. However, upon consummation of the Cavalier merger, the

acceleration of unvested options would cause us to immediately recognize the remaining balance of unrecognized compensation cost at that time.

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**NOTE 4. PER SHARE DATA**

Basic earnings per common share for a fiscal period is calculated by dividing net income by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the fiscal period. Diluted earnings per common share is calculated by adjusting the weighted average number of common shares outstanding and the net income during the fiscal period for the assumed conversion of all potentially dilutive stock options and warrants (and assuming that the proceeds hypothetically received from the exercise of dilutive stock options and warrants are used to repurchase our common stock at the average share price during the fiscal period). Income per share is computed as follows (in thousands except per share data):

	<b>Three Months Ended September 30, 2006</b>		<b>2005</b>		<b>Nine Months Ended September 30, 2006</b>		<b>2005</b>	
Net income used to compute basic and fully diluted earnings per share	\$	1,171	\$	5,217	\$	2,285	\$	24,055
Average shares of common stock outstanding used to compute basic earnings per share		30,494		29,808		30,444		28,122
Additional common shares to be issued assuming exercise of stock options and warrants (net of shares assumed reacquired)*		179		549		180		674
Average shares of common and common equivalent stock outstanding used to compute diluted earnings per share		30,673		30,357		30,624		28,796
Income per share - Basic:								
Net income per share	\$	0.04	\$	0.18	\$	0.08	\$	0.86
Weighted average common shares outstanding		30,494		29,808		30,444		28,122
Income per share - Diluted:								
Net income per share	\$	0.04	\$	0.17	\$	0.07	\$	0.84
Weighted average common and common equivalent shares outstanding		30,673		30,357		30,624		28,796

\* The diluted share basis for the three months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005 excludes 4,293 and 2,572 shares, respectively, and for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005 excludes 4,478 and 2,556 shares, respectively, associated with the options and warrants due to their antidilutive effect.

**NOTE 5. ACQUISITIONS**

On October 18, 2005, we and one of our subsidiaries entered into an Agreement and Plan of Merger (the “NTC Acquisition Agreement”) with Network Telephone Corporation (“NTC”), providing for our acquisition of NTC. NTC was privately held and is a facilities-based competitive local exchange carrier serving business customers primarily in Southeast United States. Under the terms of the NTC Acquisition Agreement, NTC became our indirect wholly owned subsidiary on January 3, 2006, and, in exchange for all of the stock of NTC, we paid \$16.5 million in cash (\$18.4 million less cash acquired of \$1.9 million), of which approximately \$1.8 million has been deposited in escrow to be held as security for certain indemnification obligations to us under the NTC Acquisition Agreement. The acquisition extended our networking footprint to the southeastern United States and added significantly to our commercial services capabilities.

In connection with the acquisition of NTC, we acquired \$3.3 million of restricted cash. This balance was comprised of certificates of deposit that were pledged as collateral in connection with service agreements between NTC and several vendors. Since the date of the acquisition, \$1.4 million of this balance has been released.

On May 23, 2005, we entered into an Agreement and Plan of Merger (the “LDMI Acquisition Agreement”) with LDMI Telecommunications, Inc., providing for our acquisition of LDMI. LDMI is a facilities-based competitive local exchange carrier serving business and residential customers primarily in Michigan and Ohio. Under the terms of the LDMI Acquisition Agreement, LDMI became a wholly owned subsidiary on July 13, 2005, and, in exchange for all of the stock of LDMI, we paid \$21.3 million in cash (\$24 million less cash acquired of \$2.7 million) and issued 1.8 million shares of our common stock. The acquisition of LDMI significantly accelerated our entry into the medium-sized business market with its established sales force and product portfolio. The aggregate purchase price was \$42.8 million, including the 1.8 million shares of our common stock with a market value of \$16.0 million, \$0.8 million payment of transaction costs and a \$4.7 million repayment of LDMI debt.

The following unaudited pro forma information presents a summary of the consolidated results of our operations as if the NTC and LDMI acquisitions had occurred on January 1, 2005:

	<b>For The Three Months Ended</b>		<b>For The Nine Months Ended</b>	
	<b>September 30,</b>		<b>September 30,</b>	
	<b>2006</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2005</b>
Revenues	\$ 106,353	\$ 141,802	\$ 340,921	\$ 461,873
Net Income	\$ 1,171	\$ 5,064	\$ 2,285	\$ 22,382
Earnings per share:				
Basic	\$ 0.04	\$ 0.17	\$ 0.08	\$ 0.76
Diluted	\$ 0.04	\$ 0.17	\$ 0.07	\$ 0.74
Weighted Average Shares:				
Basic	30,494	30,062	30,444	29,401
Diluted	30,673	30,612	30,624	30,075

The pro forma consolidated results of operations include adjustments to give effect to amortization of intangibles, depreciation of equipment, interest expense and income, income taxes, transaction fees and shares of common stock issued. These unaudited pro forma results have been prepared for comparative purposes only and do not purport to be indicative of the results of operations that actually would have occurred had the acquisition been made at the beginning of the periods presented or the future results of the combined operations.



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

You should read the following discussion in conjunction with our Consolidated Financial Statements included elsewhere in this Form 10-Q and in our 2005 Form 10-K and any subsequent filings.

### **Cautionary Note Concerning Forward-Looking Statements**

The Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 provides a "safe harbor" for forward-looking statements. Certain information contained herein or in any other written or oral statements made by, or on behalf of the Company, is or may be viewed as forward-looking. The words "expect," "believe," "anticipate" or similar expressions identify forward-looking statements. Although the Company has used appropriate care in developing any such forward-looking information, forward-looking information involves risks and uncertainties that could significantly impact actual results. These risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to, the following: the failure to obtain Company stockholder approval of the Cavalier merger or the failure to obtain regulatory approvals or satisfy the other conditions to the Cavalier merger, including the third quarter 2006 performance measure; the termination of the Cavalier merger agreement prior to the closing; the Cavalier merger may not close in the expected time-frame; changes in general economic conditions, including the performance of financial markets and interest rates; competitive, regulatory, or tax changes that affect the cost of or demand for the Company's products; and adverse litigation results. The Company undertakes no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future developments, or otherwise.

All forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties that may cause our actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied in the forward-looking statements. In addition to those factors discussed in this Form 10-Q, you should see our other reports on Forms 10-K, 10-Q, 8-K, and 14A subsequently filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission from time to time for information identifying factors that may cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied in the forward-looking statements. For a more detailed discussion of these factors, see the Risk Factors discussion in Item 1A of our 2005 Form 10-K. The forward-looking statements included in this Form 10-Q are made only as of the date of this report, and we undertake no obligation to update the forward-looking statements to reflect subsequent events or circumstances.

### **OVERVIEW**

On September 22, 2006, the Company, Cavalier Telephone Corporation and Cavalier Acquisition Corp., an indirectly wholly owned subsidiary of Cavalier, entered into an Agreement and Plan of Merger. The merger agreement provides that, upon its terms and subject to its conditions, the Cavalier subsidiary will merge with and into us, and that, at the effective time and as a result of this Cavalier merger, (i) we will become an indirectly wholly owned subsidiary of Cavalier and (ii) each share of our common stock that is outstanding at the effective time of the merger will be converted into the right to receive \$8.10 in cash and each outstanding option or warrant to purchase our common stock with a per share exercise price lower than \$8.10 will be converted into the right to receive a cash amount equal to \$8.10 less the exercise price for such option or warrant, as the case may be, net of any applicable taxes.

Consummation of the Cavalier merger is subject to a number of conditions, including (i) approval by the Company's stockholders, (ii) receipt of applicable consents from the Federal Communications Commission, (iii) receipt of applicable approvals from state public service or utilities commissions (or similar state regulatory agencies) that regulate our business, (iv) expiration or termination of the applicable Hart-Scott-Rodino waiting period, (v) absence of any law or order prohibiting the consummation of the Merger, (vi) the Company's meeting of a minimum financial performance measure for the quarter ending September 30, 2006 and (vii) subject to certain specified exceptions, the absence of any material adverse effect with respect to our business. Subject to the satisfaction of the applicable

conditions, we anticipate that the Cavalier merger will be consummated before December 31, 2006. On October 6, 2006, the Company filed its Hart-Scott-Rodino Notification and Report Form with the Antitrust Division and the Federal Trade Commission and we received notice that the waiting period had been terminated on October 16, 2006. The condition of meeting a minimum financial performance measure for the quarter ending September 30, 2006 has also been satisfied.

Talk America Holdings, Inc., through its subsidiaries, is a leading competitive communications services provider offering voice and data services to commercial (primarily small and medium-sized business) and residential customers. We are focused on markets where we have our own networking assets, which we began deploying in Michigan in late 2003. Currently, we are collocated in 316 end offices in Michigan, Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Florida and Georgia. As of September 30, 2006, we had approximately 613,700 local voice and data equivalent lines, of which approximately 475,600 were on our own network. Voice equivalent lines include individual telephone lines and T-1 equivalent lines based on circuit bandwidth. Data equivalent lines include DSL, dial-up and T-1 equivalent lines based on circuit bandwidth. Our off-network customers represent a profitable base of bundled phone service customers utilizing the wholesale operating platforms of the incumbent local exchange companies.

We expanded into the commercial business market with the acquisition in July 2005 of LDMI Telecommunications, Inc. (“LDMI”) and the acquisition in January 2006 of Network Telephone Corporation (“NTC”), privately held facilities-based competitive local exchange providers serving business and residential customers primarily in Michigan and Ohio and in the Southeast, respectively.

Recently, we decided to shift our marketing efforts to a bundle of broadband and voice services for residential customers from our historic offerings of voice bundles. This shift was in response to changes in market conditions in Michigan, primarily increased price competition for bundles of broadband and voice services from AT&T and Comcast, our principal competitors in Michigan. We believe that the broadband bundle delivers value to residential customers through high bandwidth capability and competitive pricing compared to current offers from these companies.



**RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

The following table sets forth for the periods indicated certain of our financial data as a percentage of revenue:

	<b>Three Months Ended September</b>		<b>Nine Months Ended September</b>	
	<b>30,</b>		<b>30,</b>	
	<b>2006</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2005</b>
Revenue	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Costs and expenses:				
Network and line costs	51.3	53.4	52.4	52.0
General and administrative expenses	20.4	19.5	21.8	17.2
Provision for doubtful accounts	4.1	3.7	3.7	4.3
Sales and marketing expenses	11.2	6.0	10.5	6.1
Depreciation and amortization	10.4	9.7	10.0	8.9
Total costs and expenses	97.4	92.3	98.4	88.5
Operating income	2.6	7.7	1.6	11.5
Other income (expense):				
Interest income	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Interest expense	(0.2)	(0.1)	(0.2)	--
Other, net	--	--	--	(0.1)
Income before income taxes	2.6	7.8	1.6	11.6
Provision for income taxes	1.5	3.5	0.9	4.7
Net income	1.1%	4.3%	0.7%	6.9%

The following table sets forth for certain items of our financial data for the periods indicated the percentage increase or (decrease) in such item from the prior year comparable fiscal period:

	<b>Three Months Ended</b>		<b>Nine Months Ended</b>	
	<b>September 30,</b>		<b>September 30,</b>	
	<b>2006</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2005</b>
Revenue	(11.9)%	(0.2)%	(2.1)%	0.7%
Costs and expenses:				
Network and line costs	(15.3)	10.6	(1.4)	10.1
General and administrative expenses	(7.7)	31.1	23.7	14.1
Provision for doubtful accounts	(3.5)	(21.2)	(15.4)	6.1
Sales and marketing expenses	63.9	(62.2)	68.3	(61.8)
Depreciation and amortization	(4.6)	158.7	11.4	138.6
Total costs and expenses	(6.9)	4.4	8.9	1.7
Operating income	(70.7)	(34.7)	(86.6)	(6.6)
Other income (expense):				
Interest income	27.6	226.2	(12.0)	327.9
Interest expense	62.3	(120.3)	275.6	(76.5)
Other, net	120.0	100.0	(111.6)	100.0
Income before income taxes	(70.4)	(36.9)	(86.2)	(4.7)
Provision for income taxes	(61.3)	(28.9)	(79.9)	(1.9)
Net income	(77.6)%	(42.1)%	(90.5)%	(16.1)%

### **THIRD QUARTER 2006 COMPARED TO THIRD QUARTER 2005**

Revenue. Revenue for the third quarter 2006 declined from the third quarter 2005 as the acquisition of NTC in the first quarter 2006 was not sufficient to offset the decline in our revenues from our customer base where we do not currently have networking facilities. Since 2004 we have increased and will continue to increase certain fees and rates related to our long distance and bundled products and such changes in rates will adversely impact customer turnover. Customer turnover remains above targeted levels which has had an adverse effect on our revenues and if such customer turnover remains at these levels it will continue to have an adverse impact on future revenues.

The increase in revenue from customers that are served by our own networking facilities, or on-net, to \$63.5 million for the third quarter 2006 from \$23.9 million for the third quarter 2005 was due to greater average lines in 2006 as compared to 2005 primarily as a result of the migration of customer lines to our own network and, to a lesser degree, the acquisition of NTC. As of September 30, 2006, our voice and data equivalent lines on-net had increased to 476,000 from 235,000 as of September 30, 2005.

The decrease in revenue from customers that are not served by our own networking facilities, or off-net, to \$30.8 million for the third quarter 2006 from \$79.9 million for the third quarter 2005 was due to fewer average lines in 2006 as compared to 2005, partially offset by an increase in average monthly revenue per customer. Our off-net voice and data equivalent lines declined during this period due both to the migration of off-net lines to our own network and, in areas where we were not building network, the attrition of customers leaving our services for those of other carriers. This decline was partially offset by increased off-net lines as a result of the acquisitions of NTC. As of September 30, 2006, our off-net voice and data equivalent lines had decreased to 138,000 from 410,000 as of September 30, 2005. A significant increase in the costs we pay for network services from the incumbent local telephone carriers has caused us to cease marketing to new customers in markets where we do not currently have network facilities and, as a result of this, together with continued migrations to our network, we expect the decline in off-net revenues to continue in the future.

Long distance only and other revenue decreased for the third quarter 2006 to \$12.0 million from \$16.9 million for the third quarter 2005. Customer price increases for long distance customers were not sufficient to offset a decline in revenues from our existing long distance base since we no longer actively market long distance only services. We expect long distance customers and revenues to decline in the future.

While our on-net revenues grew from the second to the third quarter 2006 and we expect that our on-net revenues will grow from 2006 to 2007, the growth, however, will not be sufficient to offset the decline in our off-net revenue. As a result, we expect that our full year revenues will decline from 2006 to 2007.

Network and Line Costs. Network and line costs declined in the third quarter 2006 from the third quarter 2005 primarily due to fewer average customer lines. Network and line costs as a percentage of revenue decreased in the third quarter 2006 from the third quarter 2005, as customer price increases more than offset additional network personnel costs and increased unbundled network element platform costs. In addition, in the third quarter 2006, we recorded a reduction to network cost of \$0.9 million related to the resolution of the Georgia rate case. This reduction was offset by \$0.4 million of network costs incurred by NTC in the second quarter, which was recorded during the third quarter. To date, we have been able to increase our prices to offset per line increases in network and line cost, but these price increases will increase customer turnover. Network and line costs exclude depreciation and amortization of \$6.9 million for the third quarter 2006 and \$6.3 million for the third quarter 2005.

While we do not expect that network and line costs as a percentage of revenue from 2006 to 2007 to increase as a result of the revenue decline noted above, if our usage of services under our master carrier agreement with AT&T, which usage is generally a reflection of our total on-net and off-net lines serviced, should fall below the minimum annual requirements under the agreement for any year, our costs of purchasing these services could increase in such year and we may be unable to increase our prices to offset this increase.

We seek to structure and price our products in order to maintain network and line costs as a percentage of revenue at certain targeted levels. While the control of the structure and pricing of our products assists us in mitigating risks of increases in network and line costs, the telecommunications industry is highly competitive and there can be no assurances that we will be able to effectively market our products at these higher prices.

General and Administrative Expenses. General and administrative expenses decreased in the third quarter 2006 from the third quarter 2005. This decrease was primarily due to a reduction in general and administrative headcount partially offset by the general and administrative expenses attributable to the NTC acquisition. In addition, the third quarter 2006 included expenses related to the Cavalier merger of \$0.8 million and stock-based compensation expenses associated with the issuance of stock options pursuant to SFAS 123R of \$1.0 million (see "Critical Accounting Estimates - New Accounting Pronouncements," below). The decline in general and administrative expense, however, was not in proportion to the decline in revenue primarily because of the stock-based compensation expense in the third quarter of 2006 and, as a result, general and administrative expense as a percentage of revenue increased in the third quarters 2006 from the third quarter 2005.

Provision for Doubtful Accounts. The provision for doubtful accounts increased as a percentage of revenue in the third quarter 2006 from the third quarter 2005. The increase was primarily due to the impact of customer price increases and a decline in the credit quality of our residential customer base.

Sales and Marketing Expenses. Sales and marketing expenses increased for the third quarter 2006 from the third quarter 2005. This increase is attributable to the increase in sales and marketing activity corresponding to the expansion of our networking footprint and through the acquisitions of NTC in 2006. Our sales and marketing efforts focus on increasing subscriber growth only in those areas where we currently have or plan to deploy network facilities. Included in sales and marketing expenses are advertising expenses of \$ 0.9 million for the third quarter 2006 and \$ 0.8 million for the third quarter 2005. We expect that our sales and marketing expense will increase from 2006 to 2007 as a result of our continuing efforts to grow our on-net business, including the roll-out of our bundle of broadband and voice services.

## **YEAR TO DATE 2006 COMPARED TO YEAR TO DATE 2005**

Revenue. Revenue for the year to date 2006 decreased from the year to date 2005 as the acquisitions of LDMI in the third quarter 2005 and NTC in the first quarter 2006 were not sufficient to offset the decline in our revenues from our customer base located in markets where we do not currently have networking facilities.

The increase in revenue from on-net customers to \$186.3 million for the year to date 2006 from \$35.0 million for the year to date 2005 was due to greater average lines in 2006 as compared to 2005 primarily as a result of the migration of customer lines to our own network and, to a lesser degree, the acquisitions of LDMI and NTC.

The decrease in revenue from off-net customers to \$114.9 million for the year to date 2006 from \$272.9 million for the year to date 2005 was due to fewer average lines in 2006 as compared to 2005, partially offset by an increase in average monthly revenue per customer. Our off-net voice and data equivalent lines declined during this period due both to the migration of off-net lines to our own network and, in areas where we were not building network, the attrition of customers leaving our services for those of other carriers. This decline was partially offset by increased off-net lines as a result of the acquisitions of LDMI and NTC.

Long distance only and other revenue decreased for the year to date 2006 to \$39.7 million from \$40.2 million for the year to date 2005. The acquisition of LDMI and customer price increases partially offset a decline in revenues from our existing long distance base.

Network and Line Costs. Network and line costs as a percentage of revenue increased in the year to date 2006 from the year to date 2005, primarily due to additional network personnel costs and increased unbundled network element platform costs. In addition, for the year to date 2006, we recorded a reduction to network cost of \$3.1 million related to the resolution of the Georgia rate case. To date, we have been able to increase our prices to offset per line increases in network and line cost, but these price increases will increase customer turnover. Network and line costs exclude depreciation and amortization of \$19.9 million for the year to date 2006 and \$17.2 million for the year to date 2005.

We seek to structure and price our products in order to maintain network and line costs as a percentage of revenue at certain targeted levels. While the control of the structure and pricing of our products assists us in mitigating risks of increases in network and line costs, the telecommunications industry is highly competitive and there can be no assurances that we will be able to effectively market our products at these higher prices.

General and Administrative Expenses. General and administrative expenses increased in the year to date 2006 from the year to date 2005. This increase was primarily due to the general and administrative expenses attributable to the LDMI and NTC acquisitions, partially offset by a reduction in overall headcount and a reduction in accrued bonus compensation. In addition, the year to date 2006 included expenses related to the Cavalier merger of \$0.8 million and stock-based compensation expenses associated with the issuance of stock options pursuant to SFAS 123R of \$4.2 million (see “Critical Accounting Policies - Stock-Based Compensation Expense,” below). As a result, general and administrative expense as a percentage of revenue increased in the year to date 2006 from the year to date 2005.

Provision for Doubtful Accounts. The provision for doubtful accounts decreased both in dollars and as a percentage of revenue in the year to date 2006 from the year to date 2005. The decrease was primarily due to an increase in the percentage of revenue derived from commercial accounts that have lower bad debt experience as compared to residential customers.

Sales and Marketing Expenses. Sales and marketing expenses increased for the year to date 2006 from the year to date 2005. This increase is attributable to the increase in sales and marketing activity corresponding to the expansion of our networking footprint and through the acquisitions of LDMI in 2005 and NTC in 2006. Our sales and marketing efforts focus on increasing subscriber growth only in those areas where we currently have or plan to deploy network facilities. Included in sales and marketing expenses are advertising expenses of \$3.7 million for the year to date 2006 and \$3.2 million for the year to date 2005.

Depreciation and Amortization. Depreciation and amortization increased in the year to date 2006 from the year to date 2005 primarily due to increased depreciation related to capital expenditures incurred in 2005 related to our deployment of networking assets (our local switching and collocation equipment) in Michigan and depreciation and amortization related to the LDMI and NTC acquisitions.

**LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES**

Our management assesses our liquidity in terms of our ability to generate cash to fund our operations, our capital expenditures and our debt service obligations. For the year to dates 2006 and 2005, our operating activities provided net cash flow of \$26.2 million and \$56.7 million, respectively. In the year to date 2006, cash from operations together with cash on hand was used to fund capital expenditures and capitalized software development costs as well as the acquisition of NTC. As of September 30, 2006, we had \$37.5 million in cash and cash equivalents, (including \$1.9 million in restricted cash) and long-term debt and capital lease obligations (including current maturities) of \$4.4 million, compared to \$46.3 million and \$5.3 million, respectively, at December 31, 2005.

Net cash provided by (used for):

	<b>Year to date (in thousands)</b>		<b>Percent Change 2006 vs. 2005</b>
	<b>2006</b>	<b>2005</b>	
Operating activities	\$ 26,162	\$ 56,680	(53.8)%
Investing activities	\$ (33,984)	\$ (64,953)	(47.7)%
Financing activities	\$ (2,872)	\$ 3,099	(192.7)%

Cash Provided By Operating Activities. Cash generated by operations decreased by \$30.5 million from the year to date 2005 to the year to date 2006. The decrease was driven by lower cash flow before changes in working capital and by higher investment in working capital primarily due to the payment related to the Georgia rate case as discussed below. The decrease in cash flow before changes in working capital was primarily driven by increases in general and administrative expense and sales and marketing expense. The application of net operating loss carryforwards, or NOLs, has limited our current payment of income taxes to cash taxes for alternative minimum taxes and certain state income taxes, but we expect that Talk America's NOLs will be substantially utilized during 2006. The use of NOLs acquired in the LDMI and NTC acquisitions will be limited, with the benefit spread through 2018.

In Georgia, an appeals court overturned a rate reduction by the state public utility commission and ordered the commission to recalculate the rates charged to us. The state commission has issued an order that results in increased rates charged to us. The rates charged to us are in excess of those previously allowed by the commission and we have accrued accordingly. In the third quarter 2006, we made a payment relating to the Georgia rate case of \$3.6 million, for which we had previously accrued.

Net Cash Used in Investing Activities. Capital expenditures and capitalized software development costs were lower in the year to date 2006 as compared to the year to date 2005. In the year to date 2006, approximately \$12.5 million of our \$15.4 million in capital expenditures consisted of costs related to our deployment of networking assets (local switch and collocation equipment). In the year to date 2005, approximately \$31.9 million of our \$35.2 million in capital expenditures consisted of costs related to our deployment of networking assets.

We expect to spend between \$25.0 and \$30.0 million in capital expenditures and capitalized software in 2006, primarily for the build out of the Atlanta networking facilities, the expansion of our Michigan network facilities and the purchase of customer premise capital equipment.

The acquisition of NTC on January 3, 2006, required the payment of \$16.5 million, net of cash acquired, for the purchase of all of the equity of NTC.



Net Cash Provided by (Used in) Financing Activities. Net cash used in financing activities during the year to date 2006 was \$2.9 million and net cash provided by financing activities during the year to date 2005 was \$3.1 million. Net cash used in 2006 was attributable to the payment of outstanding capital lease obligations. In October 2006, we received approximately \$2 million from the exercise of stock options.

In recent years we have been meeting our ongoing cash requirements (including for the conduct of our operations, acquisitions and capital expenditures) from our cash on-hand and from cash generated from operations. However, our continued growth may require that we seek alternative sources of funding. While we believe that we would have access to new capital in the public or private markets, there can be no assurance as to the timing, amounts, terms or conditions of any such new capital or whether it could be obtained on terms acceptable to us. Based on our current projections for operations, we believe that our cash on-hand and our cash flow from operations will be sufficient to fund our currently contemplated capital expenditures, our debt service obligations and the expenses of conducting our operations for at least the next twelve months. However, there can be no assurance that we will be able to realize our projected cash flows from operations, which is subject to the risks and uncertainties discussed in this report, or that we will not be required to consider capital expenditures in excess of those currently contemplated, as discussed in this report.

## **CRITICAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

### **Stock-Based Compensation Expense**

As of January 1, 2006, we account for employee stock-based compensation costs in accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123R, "Share-Based Payment" ("SFAS 123R"). We utilize the Black-Scholes option pricing model to estimate the fair value of employee stock based compensation at the date of grant, which requires the input of highly subjective assumptions, including expected volatility and expected life. Further, as required under SFAS 123R, we now estimate forfeitures for options that have been granted but are not expected to vest. Changes in these inputs and assumptions can materially affect the measure of estimated fair value of our share-based compensation.

### **Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosure About Market Risk.**

In the normal course of business, our financial position is subject to a variety of risks, such as the collectibility of our accounts receivable and the recoverability of the carrying values of our long-term assets. Our long-term obligations consist primarily of long term debt with fixed interest rates. We do not presently enter into any transactions involving derivative financial instruments for risk management or other purposes.

Our available cash balances are invested on a short-term basis (generally overnight) and, accordingly, are not subject to significant risks associated with changes in interest rates. Substantially all of our cash flows are derived from our operations within the United States and we are not subject to market risk associated with changes in foreign exchange rates.



**Item 4. Controls and Procedures.**

We maintain disclosure controls and procedures that are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed in our reports under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the Securities and Exchange Commission's rules and forms, and that such information is accumulated and communicated to management, including our principal executive officer and chief financial officer, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure. In connection with the preparation of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, we carried out an evaluation under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including our principal executive officer and chief financial officer, of the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Exchange Act) as of March 31, 2006. Based upon this evaluation, our principal executive officer and chief financial officer concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of September 30, 2006.

There were no changes in internal control over financial reporting during our most recent fiscal quarter ended September 30, 2006, that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

## PART II - OTHER INFORMATION

### Item 1. Legal Proceedings

We are aware of five asserted class actions related to the proposed Cavalier merger filed against us.

Two separate, substantially identical lawsuits, *Daniel Tyler, individually and on behalf of a class of persons similarly situated v. Edward Meyercord III, Mark Fowler, Robert Korzeniewski, Gabriel Battista, Ronald Thoma, Talk America Holdings, Inc. and Cavalier Telephone Corporation*, Case No. 0609065, and *Michael Kaiser, individually and on behalf of a class of persons similarly situated v. Edward Meyercord III, Mark Fowler, Robert Korzeniewski, Gabriel Battista, Ronald Thoma, Talk America Holdings, Inc. and Cavalier Telephone Corporation*, Case No. 0609067, each was filed on September 29, 2006 in the Court of Common Pleas of Bucks County, Pennsylvania, Civil Division - Equity. Each complaint:

- purports to be brought on behalf of all Talk America's stockholders (excluding the defendants and their affiliates);
- alleges, among other things, that the individual defendants (the Company's directors) breached their fiduciary obligations to the Company's stockholders in proposing to acquire [sic] the public shares of Talk America at \$8.10;
  - alleges that Cavalier has aided and abetted Talk America and its directors' alleged wrongdoing;
- alleges that the merger consideration is unfair to the public stockholder of Talk America since (i) there is a higher bona fide offer for \$9.00 per share (apparently referring to the conditional Sun Capital proposal); (ii) the \$8.10 proposed acquisition price fails to reflect and is far below the true valuation of Talk America; and (iii) the merger agreement does not contain a "go-shop" provision during which period only a substantially reduced break-up fee would be payable if a higher bid were to emerge;
- alleges that, as a result of defendants' failure to take such steps as their fiduciary obligations require, plaintiff and other class members have been and will be damaged in that they have not and will not receive their proportionate share of the value of the Company assets and business, and have been and will be prevented from obtaining a fair price for their common stock; and
  - seeks various forms of relief, including certification of the purported class, an injunction against the consummation of the merger unless and until a fair price is paid, unspecified money damages plus interest thereon and attorneys' fees and expenses incurred in connection with the respective lawsuit.

We believe that these lawsuits are without merit and plan to defend them vigorously.

*Fred Tobin, on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated v. Talk America Holdings, Inc., Edward B. Meyercord, III, Gabriel A. Battista, Mark S. Fowler, Ronald R. Thoma and Robert J. Korzeniewski*, Case No. 0609143, was filed on October 2, 2006 in the Court of Common Pleas of Bucks County, Pennsylvania, Civil Division-Law. The complaint purports to be brought on behalf of all of Talk America's stockholders (excluding the defendants and their affiliates) asserting claims based on alleged self-dealing and breaches of fiduciary duty by the Company's directors in connection with the agreement to be acquired by Cavalier. The complaint alleges that the Company's directors breached their fiduciary duties of loyalty, due care, independence, good faith and fair dealing by failing to obtain the highest price reasonably available for the Company by structuring the merger agreement to provide for a \$6.25 million termination fee and up to \$1.25 million in expenses, and by utilizing a process allegedly designed to ensure the sale of Talk America to Cavalier on terms preferential to Cavalier and Meyercord. The complaint seeks various forms of relief, including: declaration of a proper class action; declaration that the merger agreement is unlawful and unenforceable; injunction prohibiting the defendants from consummating the acquisition until the Company adopts a procedure that obtains the highest possible price for shareholders; injunction directing the individual defendants to exercise their fiduciary duties to obtain a transaction which is in the best interest of the shareholders; rescission of the merger agreement; imposition of a constructive trust; and an award of attorneys' fees, expert fees and costs. We believe that this lawsuit is without merit and intend to defend it vigorously.

*Edward Katz,, individually, and on behalf of all others similarly situated v. Edward B. Meyercord III, Mark Fowler, Robert Korzeniewski, Gabriel Battista, Ronald Thoma, and Talk America Holdings, Inc., C.A. No. 2461-N*, was filed on October 10, 2006 in the Court of Chancery of the State of Delaware, New Castle County. The complaint purports to be brought on behalf of all Talk America's stockholders (excluding the defendants and their affiliates) asserting claims based on breaches of the board's fiduciary duties in connection with the agreement to be acquired by Cavalier and in responding to the bid by Sun Capital. The complaint alleges that the Company's directors are not complying with their fiduciary duties by failing duly to pursue and obtain the best value reasonably available on a sale of the Company and the directors are passively allowing the forced vote provision of the merger agreement to push an uninformed decision on the stockholders. The complaint further alleges that the Company's directors have breached and/or aided and abetted breaches of fiduciary duties owed to Talk America and its stockholders. The complaint seeks various forms of relief, including declaration of a proper class action, ordering the individual defendants to affirmatively fulfill their fiduciary duties by acting to undertake an appropriate evaluation of alternatives to maximize value for Talk America's public stockholders prior to any vote on the merger agreement, ordering defendants to account for all damages suffered by the plaintiff and other class members as a result of the alleged wrongs, and awarding the plaintiff the costs and disbursements of this lawsuit. We believe that this lawsuit is without merit and plan to defend it vigorously.

*Bruce Murphy, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated v. Edward B. Meyercord III, Mark Fowler, Robert Korzeniewski, Gabriel Battista, Ronald Thoma, and Talk America Holdings, Inc.*, C.A. No. 2493-N, was filed on October 23, 2006 in the Court of Chancery of the State of Delaware, New Castle County. The complaint purports to be brought on behalf of all Talk America's stockholders (excluding the defendants and their affiliates). The complaint alleges that the Company's directors have acted and are acting contrary to their fiduciary duty to maximize value on a change in control of Talk America. In that connection, the complaint alleges that (i) the merger is inadequate and unfair to plaintiff and other class members because it is at a substantially lower price than the offer by Sun Capital; (ii) the merger will deny the plaintiff and other class members the opportunity either to benefit by the higher offer or to share proportionately in the future success of Talk America and its valuable assets; and (iii) the merger benefits Meyercord but is detrimental to the plaintiff and the class. The complaint seeks various forms of relief, including an injunction against the consummation of the merger, unspecified rescissory damages in the event the merger is consummated, unspecified money damages plus interest thereon against the defendants, and plaintiff's attorneys' fees and expenses. We believe that this lawsuit is without merit and plan to defend it vigorously.

Additional lawsuits pertaining to the proposed merger could be filed in the future.

#### **Item 1A. Risk Factors**

In addition to the risk factors disclosed under Item 1A of our 2005 Form 10-K:

##### **There are risks arising from our merger agreement with Cavalier.**

As of September 22, 2006, we entered into a merger agreement with Cavalier that provides for our acquisition by Cavalier. In addition to the risk that such acquisition transaction does not take place and our shareholders do not receive the consideration provided for therein, the merger agreement provisions subject us to certain restrictions on the conduct of our business prior to completion of the transaction that could delay or prevent us from undertaking business opportunities that may arise pending completion of the transaction or that could discourage competing proposals to acquire us or lower the price that a competing bidder might be willing to pay for us. Further, if the merger agreement is terminated under certain circumstances, we could be obligated to pay Cavalier fees and reimbursed expenses aggregating up to \$7.5 million. We are also subject to potential liabilities under lawsuits filed and that may be filed against us arising from the proposed acquisition transaction. In addition, compliance with the merger agreement and the prospect of the acquisition transaction contemplated thereby may result in detrimental diversion of management's attention from our ongoing business operations and in difficulties in retaining our employees.

**Item 4. Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders**

(a) Our Annual Meeting of Stockholders was held on August 9, 2006. Three proposals were voted upon at the meeting: (1) the election of one director, (2) the ratification of the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as the independent certified public accountants for 2006, and (3) the ratification and approval of the Talk America Employee Stock Purchase Plan.

(b) The votes in respect of the director were as follows:

For the election of Edward B. Meyercord, III as director, there were 21,291,463 votes cast for, 0 votes cast against and 5,414,087 abstentions and broker non-votes.

The terms of office of the following directors continued after the meeting: Gabriel Battista, Mark Fowler, Robert Korzeniewski, and Ronald Thoma

(c) The votes in respect of the other matters voted upon at the meeting were as follows:

For the ratification of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as independent auditors, there were 26,622,434 votes cast for, 61,513 votes cast against and 21,602 abstentions and broker non-votes.

For the ratification and approval of the Talk America Employee Stock Purchase Plan, there were 16,833,600 votes cast for, 759,191 votes cast against and 9,088,143 abstentions and broker non-votes.

**Item 6. Exhibits**

- 31.1 Rule 13a-14(a) Certifications of Edward B. Meyercord, III (filed herewith).
- 31.2 Rule 13a-14(a) Certifications of David G. Zahka (filed herewith).
- 32.1 Certification of Edward B. Meyercord, III Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (furnished to the Commission herewith).
- 32.2 Certification of David G. Zahka Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (furnished to the Commission herewith).

**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

**TALK AMERICA HOLDINGS, INC.**

Date: November 9, 2006

By: /s/ Edward B. Meyercord, III

Edward B. Meyercord, III

Chief Executive Officer

Date: November 9, 2006

By: /s/ Gavid G. Zahka

David G. Zahka

Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial Officer)