

HARRAHS ENTERTAINMENT INC
Form 10-K
March 17, 2009

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-K

(Mark One)

**ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008**

OR

**TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
Commission File No. 1-10410**

HARRAH S ENTERTAINMENT, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State of incorporation)

62-1411755
(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

Edgar Filing: HARRAHS ENTERTAINMENT INC - Form 10-K

One Caesars Palace Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada
(Address of principal executive offices)

89109
(Zip code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code:

(702) 407-6000

SECURITIES REGISTERED PURSUANT TO SECTION 12(b) OF THE ACT:

None

SECURITIES REGISTERED PURSUANT TO SECTION 12(g) OF THE ACT:

voting common stock, \$0.01 par value

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. Yes No

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Act. Yes No

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 if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K.

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

Large accelerated filer

Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer
(Do not check if a smaller

smaller reporting company

reporting company)

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

As of March 13, 2009, the Registrant had 10 shares of voting Common Stock and 40,694,445 shares of non-voting Common Stock outstanding. There is not a market for the Registrant's common stock; therefore, the aggregate market value of the Registrant's common stock held by non-affiliates is not calculable.

PART I

ITEM 1. Business.

Overview

Harrah's Entertainment, Inc., a Delaware corporation, is one of the largest casino entertainment providers in the world. Our business is primarily conducted through a wholly-owned subsidiary, Harrah's Operating Company, Inc., although certain material properties are not owned by Harrah's Operating Company, Inc. As of December 31, 2008, we owned or managed, through various subsidiaries, 53 casinos in six countries, but primarily in the United States and the United Kingdom. Our casino entertainment facilities operate primarily under the Harrah's, Caesars and Horseshoe brand names in the United States, and include land-based casinos, casino clubs, riverboat or dockside casinos, casinos on Indian reservations, a combination greyhound racing facility and casino and combination thoroughbred racetrack and a harness racetrack and slot facility. As of December 31, 2008, our facilities have an aggregate of approximately 3 million square feet of gaming space and approximately 39,000 hotel rooms. We have a customer loyalty program, Total Rewards, which has over 40 million members that we use for marketing promotions and to generate play by our customers when they travel among our markets in the United States and Canada. We also own and operate the World Series of Poker tournament and brand. Unless otherwise noted or indicated by the context, the terms Harrah's, Harrah's Entertainment, Company, we, us, and our refer to Harrah's Entertainment, Inc.

We were incorporated on November 2, 1989 in Delaware, and prior to such date operated under predecessor companies. Our principal executive offices are located at One Caesars Palace Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada 89109, telephone (702) 407-6000. Until January 28, 2008, our common stock was traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol HET.

On January 28, 2008, Harrah's Entertainment was acquired by affiliates of Apollo Global Management, LLC (Apollo) and TPG Capital, LP (TPG) in an all-cash transaction, hereinafter referred to as the Merger, valued at approximately \$30.7 billion, including the assumption of \$12.4 billion of debt and approximately \$1.0 billion of acquisition costs. Holders of Harrah's Entertainment stock received \$90.00 in cash for each outstanding share of common stock. As a result of the Merger, the issued and outstanding shares of non-voting common stock and non-voting preferred stock of Harrah's Entertainment are owned by entities affiliated with Apollo/TPG and certain co-investors and members of management, and the issued and outstanding shares of voting common stock of Harrah's Entertainment are owned by Hamlet Holdings LLC, which is owned by certain individuals affiliated with Apollo/TPG. As a result of the Merger, our stock is no longer publicly traded.

Description of Business

Our casino business commenced operations in 1937. We own or manage casino entertainment facilities in more areas throughout the United States than any other participant in the casino industry. In addition to casinos, our facilities typically include hotel and convention space, restaurants and non-gaming entertainment facilities. Three of our properties are racetracks at which we have installed slot machines. The descriptions below are as of December 31, 2008, except where otherwise noted.

In southern Nevada, Harrah's Las Vegas, Rio All-Suite Hotel & Casino, Caesars Palace, Bally's Las Vegas, Flamingo Las Vegas, Paris Las Vegas, Imperial Palace Hotel & Casino and Bill's Gamblin' Hall & Saloon are located in Las Vegas, and draw customers from throughout the United States. Harrah's Laughlin is located near both the Arizona and California borders and draws customers primarily from the southern California and Phoenix metropolitan areas and, to a lesser extent, from throughout the U.S. via charter aircraft.

In northern Nevada, Harrah's Lake Tahoe, Harveys Resort & Casino and Bill's Casino are located near Lake Tahoe and Harrah's Reno is located in downtown Reno, and these facilities draw customers primarily from northern California, the Pacific Northwest and Canada.

Our Atlantic City casinos, Harrah's Resort Atlantic City, Showboat Atlantic City, Caesars Atlantic City and Bally's Atlantic City, draw customers primarily from the Philadelphia metropolitan area, New York and New Jersey.

Harrah's Chester is a combination harness racetrack and slot facility located approximately six miles south of Philadelphia International Airport which draws customers primarily from the Philadelphia metropolitan area and Delaware.

Our Chicagoland dockside casinos, Harrah's Joliet in Joliet, Illinois, and Horseshoe Hammond in Hammond, Indiana, draw customers primarily from the greater Chicago metropolitan area. In southern Indiana, we own Horseshoe Southern Indiana (formerly Caesars Indiana), a dockside casino complex located in Elizabeth, Indiana, which draws customers primarily from northern Kentucky, including the Louisville metropolitan area, and southern Indiana, including Indianapolis.

In Louisiana, we own Harrah's New Orleans, a land-based casino located in downtown New Orleans, which attracts customers primarily from the New Orleans metropolitan area. In northwest Louisiana, Horseshoe Bossier City, a dockside casino, and Harrah's Louisiana Downs, a thoroughbred racetrack with slot machines, located in Bossier City, cater to customers in northwestern Louisiana and east Texas, including the Dallas/Fort Worth metropolitan area.

On the Mississippi gulf coast, we own the Grand Casino Biloxi, located in Biloxi, Mississippi, which caters to customers in southern Mississippi, southern Alabama and northern Florida.

Harrah's North Kansas City and Harrah's St. Louis, both dockside casinos, draw customers from the Kansas City and St. Louis metropolitan areas, respectively. Harrah's Metropolis is a dockside casino located in Metropolis, Illinois, on the Ohio River, drawing customers from southern Illinois, western Kentucky and central Tennessee.

Horseshoe Tunica, Harrah's Tunica (formerly Grand Casino Tunica) and Sheraton Casino & Hotel Tunica, dockside casino complexes located in Tunica, Mississippi, are approximately 30 miles from Memphis, Tennessee and draw customers primarily from the Memphis area.

Horseshoe Council Bluffs, a land-based casino, and Harrah's Council Bluffs, a dockside casino facility, are located in Council Bluffs, Iowa, across the Missouri River from Omaha, Nebraska. The Bluffs Run Greyhound Racetrack is in operation at Horseshoe Council Bluffs as well. At Bluffs Run, we own the assets other than gaming equipment, and lease these assets to the Iowa West Racing Association, or IWRA, a nonprofit corporation, and we manage the facility for the IWRA under a management agreement expiring in October 2024. Iowa law requires that a qualified nonprofit corporation hold Bluffs Run's gaming and pari-mutuel licenses and its gaming equipment.

Caesars Windsor (formerly Casino Windsor), located in Windsor, Ontario, draws customers primarily from the Detroit metropolitan area and the Conrad Resort & Casino located in Punta Del Este, Uruguay, draws customers primarily from Argentina and Uruguay.

As part of the acquisition of London Clubs in December 2006, we own or manage five casinos in London: the Sportsman, the Golden Nugget, the Rendezvous, Fifty and The Casino at the Empire. Our casinos in London draw customers primarily from the London metropolitan area as well as international visitors. We also own Alea Nottingham, Alea Glasgow, Alea Leeds, Manchester235, Rendezvous Brighton and Rendezvous Southend-on-Sea in the provinces of the United Kingdom, which primarily draw customers from their local areas. We also manage three casinos in Cairo, Egypt at the Nile Hilton, Ramses Hilton and Caesars Cairo (which opened on December 22, 2008), which draw customers primarily from other countries in the Middle East. Emerald Safari, located in the province of Gauteng in South Africa, draws customers primarily from South Africa.

We also earn fees through our management of three casinos for Indian tribes:

- i Harrah's Phoenix Ak-Chin, located near Phoenix, Arizona, which we manage for the Ak-Chin Indian Community under a management agreement that expires in December 2009. Harrah's Phoenix Ak-Chin draws customers from the Phoenix metropolitan area;
- i Harrah's Cherokee Casino and Hotel, which we manage for the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians on their reservation in Cherokee, North Carolina under a management contract that expires November 2011. Harrah's Cherokee draws customers from eastern Tennessee, western North Carolina, northern Georgia and South Carolina.
- i Harrah's Rincon Casino and Resort, located near San Diego, California, which we manage for the Rincon San Luiseno Band of Mission Indians under a management agreement that expires in November 2013. Harrah's Rincon draws customers from the San Diego metropolitan area and Orange County, California; and

We own and operate Bluegrass Downs, a harness racetrack located in Paducah, Kentucky, and own a one-half interest in Turfway Park LLC, which is the owner of the Turfway Park thoroughbred racetrack in Boone County, Kentucky. Turfway Park LLC owns a minority interest in Kentucky Downs LLC, which is the owner of the Kentucky Downs racetrack located in Simpson County, Kentucky.

We also operate the World Series of Poker tournament circuit and license trademarks for merchandise related to this brand.

We also own Macau Orient Golf located on Cotai in Macau.

Additional information about our casino entertainment properties is set forth below in Item 2, Properties.

Sales and Marketing

We believe that our distribution system of casino entertainment facilities provides us the ability to generate play by our customers when they travel among markets, which we refer to as cross-market play. In addition, we have several critical multi-property markets like Las Vegas, Atlantic City and Tunica, and we have seen increased revenue from customers visiting multiple properties in the same market. We believe our customer loyalty program, Total Rewards, in conjunction with this distribution system, allows us to capture a growing share of our customers gaming budget and compete more effectively.

Our Total Rewards program is structured in tiers, providing customers an incentive to consolidate their play at our casinos. Total Rewards customers are able to earn Tier Credits and Reward Credits and redeem those Credits at substantially all of our casino entertainment facilities located in the U.S. and Canada for on-property entertainment expenses. Depending on their level of play with us in a calendar year, customers may be designated as either Gold, Platinum, Diamond, or Seven Stars customers. Customers who do not participate in Total Rewards are encouraged to join, and those with a Total Rewards card are encouraged to consolidate their play through targeted promotional offers and rewards.

We have developed a database containing information for our customers and aspects of their casino gaming play. We use this information for marketing promotions, including through direct mail campaigns and the use of electronic mail and our website.

Patents and Trademarks

We own the following trademarks used in this document: Harrah[®], Caesars[®], Grand CasinoSM, Bally[®], Flamingo[®], Paris[®], Caesars Palace[®], Rio[®], Showboat[®], Bill[®], Harveys[®], Total Rewards[®], Bluffs Run[®], Louisiana Downs[®], Reward Credits[®], Horseshoe[®], Seven Stars[®], and World Series of Poker[®]. Trademark rights are perpetual provided that the mark remains in use by us. We consider all of these marks, and the associated name recognition, to be valuable to our business.

We have been issued six U.S. patents covering some of the technology associated with our Total Rewards program—U.S. Patent No. 5,613,912 issued March 25, 1997, expiring April 5, 2015 (which is the subject of a license agreement with Mikohn Gaming Corporation); U.S. Patent No. 5,761,647 issued June 2, 1998, expiring May 24, 2016; U.S. Patent No. 5,809,482 issued September 15, 1998, expiring September 15, 2015; U.S. Patent No. 6,003,013 issued December 14, 1999, now expired; U.S. Patent No. 6,183,362, issued February 6, 2001, which we will allow to lapse in 2009; and U.S. Patent No. 7,419,427, issued September 2, 2008, which will expire on May 24, 2016. We have also been issued two U.S. patents covering some of the technology associated with our Total Rewards 2 program—U.S. Patent 7,329,185, issued February 12, 2008, which will expire on September 29, 2024; and U.S. Patent 7,410,422, issued on August 12, 2008, which will expire on April 24, 2025.

Competition

We own or manage land-based, dockside, riverboat and Indian casino facilities in most U.S. casino entertainment jurisdictions. We also own or manage properties in Canada, the United Kingdom, South Africa, Egypt and Uruguay. We compete with numerous casinos and casino hotels of varying quality and size in the market areas where our properties are located. We also compete with other non-gaming resorts and vacation areas, and with various other entertainment businesses. The casino entertainment business is characterized by competitors that vary considerably by their size, quality of facilities, number of operations, brand identities, marketing and growth strategies, financial strength and capabilities, level of amenities, management talent and geographic diversity.

In most markets, we compete directly with other casino facilities operating in the immediate and surrounding market areas. In some markets, we face competition from nearby markets in addition to direct competition within our market areas.

In recent years, with fewer new markets opening for development, competition in existing markets has intensified. Many casino operators, including us, have invested in expanding existing facilities, developing new facilities, and acquiring established facilities in existing markets, such as our acquisition of Caesars Entertainment, Inc. in 2005 and our renovated and expanded facility in Hammond, Indiana. This expansion of

Edgar Filing: HARRAHS ENTERTAINMENT INC - Form 10-K

existing casino entertainment properties, the increase in the number of properties and the aggressive marketing strategies of many of our competitors has increased competition in many markets in which we compete, and this intense competition can be expected to continue.

The expansion of casino entertainment into new markets, such as the recent expansion of tribal casino opportunities in New York and California and the approval of gaming facilities in Pennsylvania and Florida present competitive issues for us which have had a negative impact on our financial results.

The casino entertainment industry is also subject to political and regulatory uncertainty. See Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Overall Operating Results and Regional Results and Development Plans.

Other 2008 Events

Macau. In September 2007, we acquired Macau Orient Golf, located on 175 acres on Cotai adjacent to the Lotus Bridge, one of the two border crossings into Macau from China, and rights to a land concession contract. In December 2008, we announced plans for Caesars Macau Golf, a five-star golf lifestyle destination, the centerpiece of which will be a redesigned par-72 golf course and the establishment of Asia's first Butch Harmon School of Golf, the first of Harmon's flagship teaching facilities outside of the United States. The redevelopment includes expansion of the existing clubhouse into a golf lifestyle boutique, meeting facilities, VIP entertainment suites and a restaurant.

Las Vegas. In July 2007, we announced plans for an expansion and renovation of Caesars Palace Las Vegas. We have announced that we will defer completion of the planned 660-room hotel tower due to current economic conditions impacting the Las Vegas tourism sector. Other aspects of the project will proceed as planned, including the mid-summer 2009 opening of an additional 110,000 square feet of meeting and convention space, three 10,000 square foot villas and an expanded pool and garden area. The estimated total capital expenditures for the project, excluding the costs to complete the deferred rooms, are expected to be approximately \$681 million.

Biloxi. We have decided to slow down construction, which began in the third quarter of 2007, of Margaritaville Casino & Resort in Biloxi, Mississippi, as we refine the design of that project and explore all of our alternatives related to the project and its financing. We are adjusting our plan for development to better align with the economic environment, market conditions on the Gulf Coast and the current financing environment. We license the Margaritaville name from an entity affiliated with the singer/songwriter Jimmy Buffett.

Exchange Offer. In December 2008, Harrah's Operating Company, Inc. completed private exchange offers whereby approximately \$2.2 billion, face amount, of its debt, was exchanged for approximately \$1.1 billion, face amount, new 10.0% Second-Priority Senior Secured Notes due 2015 and 2018 and cash.

Governmental Regulation

The gaming industry is highly regulated, and we must maintain our licenses and pay gaming taxes to continue our operations. Each of our casinos is subject to extensive regulation under the laws, rules and regulations of the jurisdiction where it is located. These laws, rules and regulations generally concern the responsibility, financial stability and character of the owners, managers, and persons with financial interests in the gaming operations. Violations of laws in one jurisdiction could result in disciplinary action in other jurisdictions. A more detailed description of the regulations to which we are subject is contained in Exhibit 99.2 to this Annual Report on Form 10-K, which Exhibit is incorporated herein by reference.

Our businesses are subject to various foreign, federal, state and local laws and regulations in addition to gaming regulations. These laws and regulations include, but are not limited to, restrictions and conditions concerning alcoholic beverages, environmental matters, employees, currency transactions, taxation, zoning and building codes, and marketing and advertising. Such laws and regulations could change or could be interpreted differently in the future, or new laws and regulations could be enacted. Material changes, new laws or regulations, or material differences in interpretations by courts or governmental authorities could adversely affect our operating results.

Employee Relations

We have approximately 80,000 employees through our various subsidiaries. Despite a strike in Atlantic City in 2004 that was settled, we consider our labor relations with employees to be good. Approximately 26,000 employees are covered by collective bargaining agreements with certain of our subsidiaries, relating to certain casino, hotel and restaurant employees at certain of our properties. Most of our employees covered by collective bargaining agreements are located at our properties in Las Vegas and Atlantic City. Our collective bargaining agreements with employees located at our Atlantic City properties expires in September 2009 and at our Las Vegas properties in May 2012.

Available Information

Our internet address is www.harrahs.com. We make available free of charge on or through our website our annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K, and amendments to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the Exchange Act, as soon as reasonably practicable after we electronically file such material with, or furnish it to, the Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC. We also make available through our website all filings of our executive officers and directors on Forms 3, 4 and 5 under Section 16 of the Exchange Act. These filings are also available on the SEC's website at www.sec.gov. Our Code of Conduct and our Code of Business Conduct and Ethics for Principal Officers are available on our website under the Investor Relations link. We will provide a copy of these documents without charge to any person upon receipt of a written request addressed to Harrah's Entertainment, Inc., Attn: Corporate Secretary, One Caesars Palace Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada 89109. Reference in this document to our website address does not constitute incorporation by reference of the information contained on the website.

ITEM 1A. Risk Factors.

If we are unable to effectively compete against our competitors, our profits will decline.

The gaming industry is highly competitive and our competitors vary considerably in size, quality of facilities, number of operations, brand identities, marketing and growth strategies, financial strength and capabilities, level of amenities, management talent and geographic diversity. We also compete with other non-gaming resorts and vacation areas, and with various other entertainment businesses. Our competitors in each market that we participate may have substantially greater financial, marketing and other resources than we do, and there can be no assurance that they will not in the future engage in aggressive pricing action to compete with us. Although we believe we are currently able to compete effectively in each of the various markets in which we participate, we cannot assure you that we will be able to continue to do so or that we will be capable of maintaining or further increasing our current market share. Our failure to compete successfully in our various markets could adversely affect our business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flow.

In recent years, with fewer new markets opening for development, many casino operators have been reinvesting in existing markets to attract new customers or to gain market share, thereby increasing competition in those markets. As companies have completed new expansion projects, supply has typically grown at a faster pace than demand in some markets, including Las Vegas, our largest market, and competition has increased significantly. The expansion of existing casino entertainment properties, the increase in the number of properties and the aggressive marketing strategies of many of our competitors have increased competition in many markets in which we operate, and this intense competition is expected to continue. These competitive pressures have and are expected to continue to adversely affect our financial performance in certain markets, including Atlantic City.

In particular, our business may be adversely impacted by the additional gaming and room capacity in Nevada, New Jersey, New York, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Mississippi, Missouri, Michigan, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Illinois, Louisiana, Ontario, South Africa, Uruguay, United Kingdom, Egypt and/or other projects not yet announced which may be competitive in the other markets where we operate or intend to operate. Several states and Native American tribes are also considering enabling the development and operation of casinos or casino-like operations in their jurisdictions. In addition, our operations located in New Jersey and Nevada may be adversely impacted by the expansion of Native American gaming in New York and California, respectively.

We are subject to extensive governmental regulation and taxation policies, the enforcement of which could adversely impact our business, financial condition and results of operations.

We are subject to extensive gaming regulations and political and regulatory uncertainty. Regulatory authorities in the jurisdictions where we operate have broad powers with respect to the licensing of casino operations and may revoke, suspend, condition or limit our gaming or other licenses, impose substantial fines and take other actions, any one of which could adversely impact our business, financial condition and results of operations. For example, revenues and income from operations were negatively impacted during July 2006 in Atlantic City by a three-day government imposed casino shutdown.

From time to time, individual jurisdictions have also considered legislation or referendums, such as bans on smoking in casinos and other entertainment and dining facilities, which could adversely impact our operations. For example, the City Council of Atlantic City passed an ordinance in 2007 requiring that we segregate at least 75% of the casino gaming floor as a nonsmoking area, leaving no more than 25% of the casino gaming floor as a smoking area. Illinois has also passed the Smoke Free Illinois Act which became effective January 1, 2008, and bans smoking in nearly all public places, including bars, restaurants, work places, schools and casinos. The Act also bans smoking within 15 feet of any entrance, window or air intake area of these public places. These smoking bans have adversely affected revenues and operating results at our properties. The likelihood or outcome of similar legislation in other jurisdictions and referendums in the future cannot be predicted, though any smoking ban would be expected to negatively impact our financial performance.

The casino entertainment industry represents a significant source of tax revenues to the various jurisdictions in which casinos operate. From time to time, various state and federal legislators and officials have proposed changes in tax laws, or in the administration of such laws, including increases in tax rates, which would affect the industry. If adopted, such changes could adversely impact our business, financial condition and results of operations.

The development and construction of new hotels, casinos and gaming venues and the expansion of existing ones are susceptible to delays, cost overruns and other uncertainties, which could have an adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

We may decide to develop, construct and open new hotels, casinos and other gaming venues in response to opportunities that may arise. Future development projects and acquisitions may require significant capital commitments, the incurrence of additional debt, guarantees of third party-debt, the incurrence of contingent liabilities and an increase in amortization expense related to intangible assets, which could have an adverse effect upon our business, financial condition and results of operations. The development and construction of new hotels, casinos and gaming venues and the expansion of existing ones, such as our current expansion at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas, are susceptible to various risks and uncertainties, such as:

the existence of acceptable market conditions and demand for the completed project;

general construction risks, including cost overruns, change orders and plan or specification modification, shortages of equipment, materials or skilled labor, labor disputes, unforeseen environmental, engineering or geological problems, work stoppages, fire and other natural disasters, construction scheduling problems and weather interferences;

changes and concessions required by governmental or regulatory authorities;

the ability to finance the projects, especially in light of the substantial indebtedness incurred by the Company related to the Merger;

delays in obtaining, or inability to obtain, all licenses, permits and authorizations required to complete and/or operate the project; and

disruption of our existing operations and facilities.

Our failure to complete any new development or expansion project as planned, on schedule, within budget or in a manner that generates anticipated profits, could have an adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

The recent downturn in the national economy, the volatility and disruption of the capital and credit markets and adverse changes in the global economy could negatively impact our financial performance and our ability to access financing.

The recent severe economic downturn and adverse conditions in the local, regional, national and global markets have negatively affected our operations, and may continue to negatively affect our operations in the future. During periods of economic contraction such as the current period, our revenues may decrease while some of our costs remain fixed or even increase, resulting in decreased earnings. Gaming and other leisure activities we offer represent discretionary expenditures and participation in such activities may decline during economic downturns, during which consumers generally earn less disposable income. Even an uncertain economic outlook may adversely affect consumer spending in our gaming operations and related facilities, as consumers spend less in anticipation of a potential economic downturn. Furthermore, other uncertainties, including national and global economic conditions, terrorist attacks or other global events, could adversely affect consumer spending and adversely affect our operations.

Acts of terrorism and war and natural disasters may negatively impact our future profits.

Terrorist attacks and other acts of war or hostility have created many economic and political uncertainties. We cannot predict the extent to which terrorism, security alerts or war, or hostilities in Iraq and other countries throughout the world will continue to directly or indirectly impact our business and operating results. As a consequence of the threat of terrorist attacks and other acts of war or hostility in the future, premiums for a variety of insurance products have increased, and some types of insurance are no longer available. Given current conditions in the global

Edgar Filing: HARRAHS ENTERTAINMENT INC - Form 10-K

insurance markets, we are substantially uninsured for losses and interruptions caused by terrorist acts and acts of war. If any such event were to affect our properties, we would likely be adversely impacted.

In addition, natural disasters such as major fires, floods, hurricanes and earthquakes could also adversely impact our business and operating results.

For example, four of our properties were closed for an extended period of time due to the damage sustained from Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in August and September 2005. Such events could lead to the loss of use of one or more of our properties for an extended period of time and disrupt our ability to attract customers to certain of our gaming facilities. If any such event were to affect our properties, we would likely be adversely impacted.

In most cases, we have insurance that covers portions of any losses from a natural disaster, but it is subject to deductibles and maximum payouts in many cases. Although we may be covered by insurance from a natural disaster, the timing of our receipt of insurance proceeds, if any, is out of our control.

Additionally, a natural disaster affecting one or more of our properties may affect the level and cost of insurance coverage we may be able to obtain in the future, which may adversely affect our financial position.

Work stoppages and other labor problems could negatively impact our future profits.

Some of our employees are represented by labor unions. A lengthy strike or other work stoppage at one of our casino properties or construction projects could have an adverse effect on our business and results of operations. From time to time, we have also experienced attempts to unionize certain of our non-union employees. While these efforts have achieved only limited success to date, we cannot provide any assurance that we will not experience additional and more successful union activity in the future. There has been a trend towards unionization for employees in Atlantic City and Las Vegas. For example, certain dealers, slot technicians and security guards at certain of our Atlantic City properties have voted to be represented by the United Auto Workers and the International Union, Security, Police and Fire Professionals of America, respectively. However, to date, there are no collective bargaining agreements in place. In addition, in 2007, Caesars Palace dealers in Las Vegas signed union authorization cards to be represented by the Transport Workers Union (the TWU). The TWU held elections supervised by the National Labor Relations Board and won representation of the dealers. The impact of this union activity is undetermined and could negatively impact our profits.

We may not realize all of the anticipated benefits of potential future acquisitions.

Our ability to realize the anticipated benefits of potential future acquisitions will depend, in part, on our ability to integrate the businesses of such acquired company with our businesses. The combination of two independent companies is a complex, costly and time consuming process. This process may disrupt the business of either or both of the companies, and may not result in the full benefits expected. The difficulties of combining the operations of the companies include, among others:

coordinating marketing functions;

unanticipated issues in integrating information, communications and other systems;

unanticipated incompatibility of purchasing, logistics, marketing and administration methods;

retaining key employees;

consolidating corporate and administrative infrastructures;

the diversion of management's attention from ongoing business concerns; and

coordinating geographically separate organizations.

There is no assurance that we will realize the full benefits anticipated for any future acquisitions.

The risks associated with our international operations could reduce our profits.

Some of our properties are located in countries outside the United States, and our acquisition of London Clubs in 2006 has increased the percentage of our revenue derived from operations outside the United States. International operations are subject to inherent risks including:

variation in local economies;

currency fluctuation;

greater difficulty in accounts receivable collection;

trade barriers;

burden of complying with a variety of international laws; and

political and economic instability.

The loss of the services of key personnel could have a material adverse effect on our business.

The leadership of our chief executive officer, Mr. Loveman, and other executive officers has been a critical element of our success. The death or disability of Mr. Loveman or other extended or permanent loss of his services, or any negative market or industry perception with respect to him or arising from his loss, could have a material adverse effect on our business. Our other executive officers and other members of senior management have substantial experience and expertise in our business and have made significant contributions to our growth and success. The unexpected loss of services of one or more of these individuals could also adversely affect us. We are not protected by key man or similar life insurance covering members of our senior management. We have employment agreements with our executive officers, but these agreements do not guarantee that any given executive will remain with the company.

If we are unable to attract, retain and motivate employees, we may not be able to compete effectively and will not be able to expand our business.

Our success and ability to grow are dependent, in part, on our ability to hire, retain and motivate sufficient numbers of talented people, with the increasingly diverse skills needed to serve clients and expand our business, in many locations around the world. Competition for highly qualified, specialized technical and managerial, and particularly consulting personnel, is intense. Recruiting, training, retention and benefits costs place significant demands on our resources. Additionally, the recent downturn in the gaming, travel and leisure sectors has made recruiting executives to our business more difficult. The inability to attract qualified employees in sufficient numbers to meet particular demands or the loss of a significant number of our employees could have an adverse effect on us.

We are controlled by the Sponsors, whose interests may not be aligned with ours.

All of the voting common stock of Harrah's is held by Hamlet Holdings LLC, the members of which are comprised of an equal number of individuals affiliated with each of the Sponsors. As such, the Sponsors have the power to control our affairs and policies. The Sponsors also control the election of our board of directors, the appointment of management, the entering into of mergers, sales of substantially all of our assets and other extraordinary transactions.

Eight of our twelve directors have been appointed by the Sponsors. In addition, two of the three members of our Executive Committee are affiliated with the Sponsors. The members affiliated with the Sponsors have the authority, subject to the terms of our debt, to issue additional shares, implement share repurchase programs, declare dividends, pay advisory fees and make other decisions, and they may have an interest in our doing so. Furthermore, the Sponsors are in the business of making investments in companies and may from time to time acquire and hold interests in businesses that compete directly or indirectly with us, as well as businesses that represent major customers of our businesses. The Sponsors may also pursue acquisition opportunities that may be complementary to our business, and as a result, those acquisition opportunities may not be available to us. So long as the individuals affiliated with the Sponsors continue to control a significant amount of our outstanding voting common stock, the Sponsors will continue to be able to strongly influence or effectively control our decisions.

We are or may become involved in legal proceedings that, if adversely adjudicated or settled, could impact our financial condition.

From time to time, we are defendants in various lawsuits relating to matters incidental to our business. The nature of our business subjects us to the risk of lawsuits filed by customers, past and present employees, competitors, business partners, Native American tribes and others in the ordinary course of business. As with all litigation, no assurance can be provided as to the outcome of these matters and in general, litigation can be expensive and time consuming. For example, we have an ongoing dispute with the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe in which a motion to dismiss was not granted, on procedural grounds, in December 2007. In addition, an indirect subsidiary of Harrah's Operating filed a complaint against two entities seeking declaratory judgment with respect to right to terminate an agreement to enter into a joint venture related to a project in the Bahamas. The entities filed a countersuit against the indirect subsidiary of Harrah's Operating alleging wrongful termination, failure to make capital contributions and failure to perform its purported obligations. We may not be successful in the defense or prosecution of these lawsuits, which could result in settlements or damages that could significantly impact our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Our debt agreements contain restrictions that will limit our flexibility in operating our business.

Our senior secured credit facilities, the senior unsecured interim loan agreement, real estate facility loans and the indentures governing our senior notes and 2nd lien notes contain, and any future indebtedness of ours would likely contain, a number of covenants that will impose significant operating and financial restrictions on us, including restrictions on our and our subsidiaries ability to, among other things:

incur additional debt or issue certain preferred shares;

Edgar Filing: HARRAHS ENTERTAINMENT INC - Form 10-K

pay dividends on or make distributions in respect of our capital stock or make other restricted payments;

make certain investments;

sell certain assets;

create liens on certain assets;

consolidate, merge, sell or otherwise dispose of all or substantially all of our assets;

enter into certain transactions with our affiliates; and

designate our subsidiaries as unrestricted subsidiaries.

As a result of these covenants, we will be limited in the manner in which we conduct our business, and we may be unable to engage in favorable business activities or finance future operations or capital needs.

We have pledged a significant portion of our assets as collateral under our senior secured credit facilities, our real estate facility loans and our 2nd lien notes. If any of these lenders accelerate the repayment of borrowings, there can be no assurance that we will have sufficient assets to repay our indebtedness.

Under our senior secured credit facilities we will be required to satisfy and maintain specified financial ratios. Our ability to meet those financial ratios can be affected by events beyond our control, and there can be no assurance that we will meet those ratios. A failure to comply with the covenants contained in our senior secured credit facilities or our other indebtedness could result in an event of default under the facilities or the existing agreements, which, if not cured or waived, could have a material adverse affect on our business, financial condition and results of operations. In the event of any default under our senior secured credit facilities or our other indebtedness, the lenders thereunder:

will not be required to lend any additional amounts to us;

could elect to declare all borrowings outstanding, together with accrued and unpaid interest and fees, to be due and payable and terminate all commitments to extend further credit; or

require us to apply all of our available cash to repay these borrowings.

Such actions by the lenders could cause cross defaults under our other indebtedness. If we were unable to repay those amounts, the lenders under our new senior secured credit facilities, our real estate facilities and our 2nd lien notes could proceed against the collateral granted to them to secure that indebtedness.

If the indebtedness under our senior secured credit facilities, real estate facilities or our other indebtedness were to be accelerated, there can be no assurance that our assets would be sufficient to repay such indebtedness in full.

Our substantial indebtedness could adversely affect our ability to raise additional capital to fund our operations, limit our ability to react to changes in the economy or our industry and prevent us from making debt service payments.

We are a highly leveraged company. As of December 31, 2008, we had \$24.5 billion face value of outstanding indebtedness, and for the twelve months ended December 31, 2008, pro forma cash interest expense of \$1.7 billion, adjusted to reflect the Merger as if it had occurred on January 1, 2008.

Our substantial indebtedness could:

Edgar Filing: HARRAHS ENTERTAINMENT INC - Form 10-K

limit our ability to borrow money for our working capital, capital expenditures, development projects, debt service requirements, strategic initiatives or other purposes;

make it more difficult for us to satisfy our obligations with respect to our indebtedness, and any failure to comply with the obligations of any of our debt instruments, including restrictive covenants and borrowing conditions, could result in an event of default under the agreements governing our indebtedness;

require us to dedicate a substantial portion of our cash flow from operations to the repayment of our indebtedness thereby reducing funds available to us for other purposes;

limit our flexibility in planning for, or reacting to, changes in our operations or business;

make us more highly leveraged than some of our competitors, which may place us at a competitive disadvantage;

make us more vulnerable to downturns in our business or the economy;

restrict us from making strategic acquisitions, developing new gaming facilities, introducing new technologies or exploiting business opportunities; and

limit, along with the financial and other restrictive covenants in our indebtedness, among other things, our ability to borrow additional funds or dispose of assets.

Furthermore, our interest expense could increase if interest rates increase because certain of our debt is variable-rate debt.

Despite our substantial indebtedness, we may still be able to incur significantly more debt. This could intensify the risks described above.

We and our subsidiaries may be able to incur substantial indebtedness in the future. Although the terms of the agreements governing our indebtedness contain restrictions on our ability to incur additional indebtedness, these restrictions are subject to a number of important qualifications and exceptions, and the indebtedness incurred in compliance with these restrictions could be substantial. For example, as of December 31, 2008, we had \$1.29 billion available for additional borrowing under our revolving credit facility after giving effect to approximately \$0.2 billion in outstanding letters of credit, all of which would be secured. Subsequent to December 31, 2008, we borrowed the remaining amount available, except for amounts committed to back letters of credit. The remaining amount was borrowed in light of the continuing uncertainty in the credit market and general economic conditions. The funds will be used for general corporate purposes, including capital expenditures.

We may not be able to generate sufficient cash to service all of our indebtedness, and may be forced to take other actions to satisfy our obligations under our indebtedness that may not be successful.

Our ability to satisfy our debt obligations will depend upon, among other things:

our future financial and operating performance, which will be affected by prevailing economic conditions and financial, business, regulatory and other factors, many of which are beyond our control; and

our future ability to borrow under our senior secured credit facilities, the availability of which depends on, among other things, our complying with the covenants in our senior secured credit facilities.

We cannot assure you that our business will generate sufficient cash flow from operations, or that we will be able to draw under our senior secured credit facilities or otherwise, in an amount sufficient to fund our liquidity needs.

If our cash flows and capital resources are insufficient to service our indebtedness, we may be forced to reduce or delay capital expenditures, sell assets, seek additional capital or restructure or refinance our indebtedness, including the notes. These alternative measures may not be successful and may not permit us to meet our scheduled debt service obligations. Our ability to restructure or refinance our debt will depend on the condition of the capital markets and our financial condition at such time. Any refinancing of our debt could be at higher interest rates and may require us to comply with more onerous covenants, which could further restrict our business operations. In addition, the terms of existing or future debt agreements may restrict us from adopting some of these alternatives. In the absence of such operating results and resources, we could face substantial liquidity problems and might be required to dispose of material assets or operations to meet our debt service and other obligations. We may not be able to consummate those dispositions for fair market value or at all. Furthermore, any proceeds that we could realize from any such dispositions may not be adequate to meet our debt service obligations then due. The Sponsors have no continuing obligation to provide us with debt or equity financing.

PRIVATE SECURITIES LITIGATION REFORM ACT

This Annual Report on Form 10-K contains or may contain forward-looking statements intended to qualify for the safe harbor from liability established by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These statements can be identified by the fact that they do not relate strictly to historical or current facts. We have based these forward-looking statements on our current expectations about future events. Further, statements that include words such as may, will, project, might, expect, believe, anticipate, intend, could, would, estimate, the negative of these words or other words or expressions of similar meaning may identify forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements are found at various places throughout the report. These forward-looking statements, including, without limitation, those relating to future actions, new projects, strategies, future performance, the outcome of contingencies such as legal proceedings, and future financial results, wherever they occur in this report, are necessarily estimates reflecting the best judgment of our management and involve a number of risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those suggested by the forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements should, therefore, be considered in light of various important factors set forth above and from time to time in our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

In addition to the risk factors set forth above, important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from estimates or projections contained in the forward-looking statements include without limitation:

Edgar Filing: HARRAHS ENTERTAINMENT INC - Form 10-K

the impact of the substantial indebtedness incurred to finance the consummation of the Merger;

the effects of local, national and global economic, credit and capital market conditions on the economy in general, and on the gaming and hotel industry in particular;

construction factors, including delays, increased costs for labor and materials, availability of labor and materials, zoning issues, environmental restrictions, soil and water conditions, weather and other hazards, site access matters and building permit issues;

the effects of environmental and structural building conditions relating to our properties;

our ability to timely and cost-effectively integrate companies that we acquire into our operations;

access to available and reasonable financing on a timely basis;

changes in laws, including increased tax rates, smoking bans, regulations or accounting standards, third-party relations and approvals, and decisions of courts, regulators and governmental bodies;

litigation outcomes and judicial actions, including gaming legislative action, referenda and taxation;

the ability of our customer-tracking, customer loyalty and yield-management programs to continue to increase customer loyalty and same store or hotel sales;

the ability to recoup costs of capital investments through higher revenues;

acts of war or terrorist incidents or natural disasters;

access to insurance on reasonable terms for our assets;

abnormal gaming holds;

difficulties in employee retention and recruitment as a result of our substantial indebtedness and the recent downturn in the gaming and hotel industries;

the effects of competition, including locations of competitors and operating and market competition; and

the other factors set forth under **Risk Factors** above.

You are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date of this Annual Report on Form 10-K. We undertake no obligation to publicly update or release any revisions to these forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances after the date of this Annual Report on Form 10-K or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events, except as required by law.

ITEM 1B. Unresolved Staff Comments.

None.

ITEM 2. Properties.

The following table sets forth information about our casino entertainment facilities:

Summary of Property Information*

Property	Type of Casino	Casino Space Sq. Ft. (a)	Slot Machines (a)	Table Games (a)	Hotel Rooms & Suites (a)
<i>Atlantic City, New Jersey</i>					
Harrah's Atlantic City	Land-based	173,200	3,440	150	2,590
Showboat Atlantic City	Land-based	120,100	3,150	120	1,330
Bally's Atlantic City ^(b)	Land-based	147,200	3,900	210	1,760
Caesars Atlantic City	Land-based	145,000	3,040	160	1,140
<i>Las Vegas, Nevada</i>					
Harrah's Las Vegas	Land-based	90,600	1,580	110	2,530
Rio	Land-based	107,000	1,170	100	2,520
Caesars Palace	Land-based	129,900	1,440	160	3,290
Paris Las Vegas	Land-based	85,000	1,170	100	2,920
Bally's Las Vegas	Land-based	66,400	1,080	60	2,810
Flamingo Las Vegas ^(c)	Land-based	76,800	1,420	120	3,460
Imperial Palace	Land-based	75,000	800	50	2,640
Bill's Gamblin' Hall & Saloon	Land-based	42,500	420	40	200
<i>Laughlin, Nevada</i>					
Harrah's Laughlin	Land-based	47,000	910	40	1,510
<i>Reno, Nevada</i>					
Harrah's Reno	Land-based	41,600	870	50	930
<i>Lake Tahoe, Nevada</i>					
Harrah's Lake Tahoe	Land-based	57,600	870	70	510
Harveys Lake Tahoe	Land-based	63,300	820	80	740
Bill's Lake Tahoe	Land-based	18,000	310		
<i>Chicago, Illinois area</i>					
Harrah's Joliet (Illinois) ^(d)	Dockside	38,900	1,180	30	200
Horseshoe Hammond (Indiana)	Dockside	108,000	3,210	130	
<i>Metropolis, Illinois</i>					
Harrah's Metropolis ^(e)	Dockside	31,000	1,140	30	260
<i>Southern Indiana</i>					
Horseshoe Southern Indiana	Dockside	86,600	1,990	100	500
<i>Council Bluffs, Iowa</i>					
Harrah's Council Bluffs	Dockside	28,000	1,040	30	250
Horseshoe Council Bluffs ^(f)	Greyhound racing facility and land-based casino	78,800	1,840	70	
<i>Tunica, Mississippi</i>					
Horseshoe Tunica	Dockside	63,000	1,760	80	510
Harrah's Tunica	Dockside	136,000	1,750	70	1,360
Sheraton Casino & Hotel	Dockside	31,000	1,100	30	130
<i>Mississippi Gulf Coast</i>					
Grand Casino Biloxi	Dockside	28,800	830	30	490
<i>St. Louis, Missouri</i>					
Harrah's St. Louis	Dockside	111,500	2,820	90	500
<i>North Kansas City, Missouri</i>					
Harrah's North Kansas City	Dockside	60,100	1,760	60	390

Edgar Filing: HARRAHS ENTERTAINMENT INC - Form 10-K

Property	Type of Casino	Casino Space Sq. Ft. (a)	Slot Machines (a)	Table Games (a)	Hotel Rooms & Suites (a)
<i>New Orleans, Louisiana</i> Harrah's New Orleans	Land-based	125,100	2,020	130	450
<i>Bossier City, Louisiana</i> Louisiana Downs	Thoroughbred racing facility and land-based casino	14,900	1,210		
Horseshoe Bossier City	Dockside	29,900	1,510	70	610
<i>Chester, Pennsylvania</i> Harrah's Chester ^(g)	Harness racing facility and land-based casino	92,900	2,870		
<i>Phoenix, Arizona</i> Harrah's Ak-Chin ^(g)	Indian Reservation	50,300	1,090	30	150
<i>Cherokee, North Carolina</i> Harrah's Cherokee ^(h)	Indian Reservation	88,000	3,320	40	580
<i>San Diego, California</i> Harrah's Rincon ^(h)	Indian Reservation	69,900	1,600	80	660
<i>Punta del Este, Uruguay</i> Conrad Punta del Este Resort and Casino ⁽ⁱ⁾	Land-based	44,500	520	70	300
<i>Ontario, Canada</i> Caesars Windsor ⁽ⁱ⁾	Land-based	100,000	2,620	80	760
<i>United Kingdom</i> Golden Nugget	Land-based	5,100	40	20	
Rendezvous Casino	Land-based	6,200	40	20	
The Sportsman	Land-based	5,200	40	20	
Fifty ^(k)	Land-based	3,200		20	
Rendezvous Brighton	Land-based	7,800	70	30	
Rendezvous Southend-on-Sea	Land-based	8,700	60	30	
Manchester235	Land-based	11,500	80	30	
The Casino at the Empire	Land-based	20,900	100	50	
Alea Nottingham	Land-based	10,000	60	20	
Alea Glasgow	Land-based	15,000	60	30	
Alea Leeds	Land-based	10,300	60	30	
<i>Egypt</i> London Club Cairo-Nile ^(h)	Land-based	2,300	40	10	
Rendezvous Cairo-Ramses ^(h)	Land-based	2,700	30	20	
Caesars Cairo ^(h)	Land-based	5,500	20	20	
<i>South Africa</i> Emerald Safari ^(l)	Land-based	37,700	660	20	190

* As of December 31, 2008, unless otherwise noted.

(a) Approximate.

(b) Reflects reductions in casino space and slot machines for temporary closure of gaming areas in the first quarter of 2009.

- (c) Information includes O'Shea's Casino, which is adjacent to this property.
- (d) We have an 80 percent ownership interest in and manage this property.
- (e) A hotel, in which we own a 12.5% special limited partnership interest, is adjacent to the Metropolis facility. We own a second 260-room hotel.

- (f) The property is owned by the Company, leased to the operator, and managed by the Company for the operator for a fee pursuant to an agreement that expires in October 2024. This information includes the Bluffs Run greyhound racetrack that operates at the property.
- (g) We have a 50 percent ownership interest in and manage this property.
- (h) Managed.
- (i) We have an approximate 95 percent ownership interest in and manage this property.
- (j) We have a 50 percent interest in Windsor Casino Limited, which manages this property. The Province of Ontario owns the complex.
- (k) We have a 50 percent ownership interest in and manage this property. In December 2008, we entered into a Share Purchase Agreement by which our interest in the property will be sold to the joint venture partner. We expect this transaction to close in March 2009.
- (l) We have a 70 percent interest in and manage this property.

ITEM 3. Legal Proceedings.
Litigation Related to Our Operations

In April 2000, the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe (the Tribe) granted Caesars the exclusive rights to develop a casino project in the State of New York. On April 26, 2000, certain individual members of the Tribe purported to commence a class action proceeding in a Tribal Court in Hogsburg, New York, against Caesars seeking to nullify Caesars' agreement with the Tribe. On March 20, 2001, the Tribal Court purported to render a default judgment against Caesars in the amount of \$1,787 million. Prior to our acquisition of Caesars in June 2005, it was believed that this matter was settled pending execution of final documents and mutual releases. Although fully executed settlement documents were never provided, on March 31, 2003, the United States District Court for the Northern District of New York dismissed litigation concerning the validity of the judgment, without prejudice, while retaining jurisdiction to reopen that litigation, if, within three months thereof, the settlement had not been completed. On June 22, 2007, a lawsuit was filed in the United States District Court for the Northern District of New York against us by certain trustees of the Catskill Litigation Trust alleging the Catskill Litigation Trust had been assigned the Tribal Court judgment and seeks to enforce it, with interest. According to a Tribal Court order, accrued interest through July 9, 2007, was approximately \$1,014 million. We filed a motion to dismiss the case which was denied the first week of December 2007 on procedural grounds. In the Court's ruling, we were granted leave to renew our request for relief as a summary judgment motion. We have filed the motion for summary judgment, which is currently pending with the Court. We believe this matter to be without merit and will vigorously contest any attempt to enforce the judgment.

Litigation Related to Development

On March 6, 2008, Caesars Bahamas Investment Corporation (CBIC), an indirect subsidiary of Harrah's Operating Company, Inc. (HOC) terminated its previously announced agreement to enter into a joint venture in the Bahamas with Baha Mar Joint Venture Holdings Ltd. and Baha Mar JV Holding Ltd. (collectively, Baha Mar). To enforce its rights, on March 13, 2008, CBIC filed a complaint against Baha Mar, and the Baha Mar Development Company Ltd., in the Supreme Court of the State of New York, seeking a declaratory judgment with respect to CBIC's rights under the Subscription and Contribution Agreement (the Subscription Agreement), between CBIC and Baha Mar, dated January 12, 2007. Pursuant to the Subscription Agreement, CBIC agreed, subject to certain conditions, to subscribe for shares in Baha Mar Joint Venture Holdings Ltd., which was formed to develop and construct a casino, golf course and resort project in the Bahamas. The complaint alleges that (i) the Subscription Agreement grants CBIC the right to terminate the agreement at any time prior to the closing of the transactions contemplated therein, if the closing does not occur on time; (ii) the closing did not occur on time; and, (iii) CBIC exercised its right to terminate the Subscription Agreement, and to abandon the transactions contemplated therein. The complaint seeks a declaratory judgment that the Subscription Agreement has been terminated in accordance with its terms and the transactions contemplated therein have been abandoned.

Baha Mar and Baha Mar Development Company Ltd. (Baha Mar Development) filed an Amended Answer and Counterclaims against CBIC and a Third Party Complaint dated June 18, 2008 against HOC in the Supreme Court of the State of New York. Baha Mar and the Baha Mar Development allege that CBIC wrongfully terminated the Subscription Agreement and that CBIC wrongfully failed to make capital

Edgar Filing: HARRAHS ENTERTAINMENT INC - Form 10-K

contributions under the Joint Venture Investors Agreement, by and between CBIC and Baha Mar, dated January 12, 2007. In addition, Baha Mar and Baha Mar Development allege that HOC wrongfully failed to perform its purported obligations under the Harrah's Baha Mar Joint Venture Guaranty, dated January 12, 2007. Baha Mar and Baha Mar Development assert claims for breach of contract, breach of fiduciary duty, promissory estoppel, equitable estoppel and negligent misrepresentation. Baha Mar and Baha Mar Development seek (i) declaratory relief; (ii) specific performance; (iii) the recovery of

alleged monetary damages; (iv) the recovery of attorneys fees, costs, and expenses and (v) the dismissal with prejudice of CBIC's Complaint. CBIC and HOC have each answered, denying all allegations of wrongdoing.

Litigation Related to the December 2008 Exchange Offer

On January 9, 2009, S. Blake Murchison and Willis Shaw filed a purported class action lawsuit in the United States District Court for the District of Delaware, Civil Action No. 09-00020-SLR, against Harrah's Entertainment, Inc. and its board of directors, and Harrah's Operating Company, Inc. The lawsuit was amended on March 4, 2009 alleging that the bond exchange offer which closed on December 24, 2008 wrongfully impaired the rights of bondholders. The amended complaint alleges, among others, breach of the bond indentures, violation of the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, equitable rescission, and liability claims against the members of the board. The amended complaint seeks, among other relief, class certification of the lawsuit, declaratory relief that the alleged violations occurred, unspecified damages to the class, and attorneys' fees. On February 23, 2009, prior to the amended complaint being filed, the defendants filed a motion to dismiss the complaint, which had not been ruled upon by the Court.

In addition, the Company is party to ordinary and routine litigation incidental to our business. We do not expect the outcome of any pending litigation to have a material adverse effect on our consolidated financial position or results of operations.

ITEM 4. Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders.

Not applicable.

PART II

ITEM 5. Market for the Company's Common Stock, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities.

Our outstanding common stock is privately held and there is no established public trading market for our common stock. Until January 28, 2008, our common stock was listed on the New York Stock Exchange and traded under the ticker symbol HET. Until January 28, 2008, our common stock was also listed on the Chicago Stock Exchange and the Philadelphia Stock Exchange.

The approximate number of holders of record of our non-voting common stock as of March 13, 2009, was 181.

We did not pay any cash dividends in 2008. The following table sets forth the dates and amounts of cash dividends per share paid by the Company during 2007.

	Record Date	Paid On
2007		
\$0.40	February 12, 2007	February 21, 2007
0.40	May 9, 2007	May 23, 2007
0.40	August 8, 2007	August 22, 2007
0.40	November 8, 2007	November 21, 2007

The following table sets forth repurchases of our equity securities during the fourth quarter of the fiscal year covered by this report:

Period	Total Number of Shares Purchased	Average Price Paid Per Share	Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs	Maximum Number of Shares that May Yet Be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs
10/1/2008 - 10/31/2008	0	0	0	0
11/1/2008 - 11/30/2008	0	0	0	0
12/1/2008 - 12/31/2008	72,288.8	\$ 51.79	0	0

ITEM 6. Selected Financial Data.

The selected financial data set forth below for the five years ended December 31, 2008, should be read in conjunction with the Consolidated Financial Statements and accompanying notes thereto.

(In millions, except common stock data and ratios)	Successor		Predecessor			
	Jan. 28, 2008 through Dec. 31, 2008 ^(a)	Jan. 1, 2008 through Jan. 27, 2008 ^(b)	2007 ^(c)	2006 ^(d)	2005 ^(e)	2004 ^(f)
OPERATING DATA						
Revenues	\$ 9,366.9	\$ 760.1	\$ 10,825.2	\$ 9,673.9	\$ 7,010.0	\$ 4,396.8
(Loss)/income from operations	(4,237.5)	(36.8)	1,652.0	1,556.6	1,029.0	772.8
(Loss)/income from continuing operations	(5,186.7)	(101.0)	527.2	523.9	316.3	319.3
Net (loss)/income	(5,096.3)	(100.9)	619.4	535.8	236.4	367.7
COMMON STOCK DATA						
Earnings per share-diluted						
From continuing operations		(0.54)	2.77	2.79	2.10	2.83
Net (loss)/income		(0.54)	3.25	2.85	1.57	3.26
Cash dividends declared per share			1.60	1.53	1.39	1.26
FINANCIAL POSITION						
Total assets	31,048.6	23,371.3	23,357.7	22,284.9	20,517.6	8,585.6
Long-term debt	23,123.3	12,367.5	12,429.6	11,638.7	11,038.8	5,151.1
Stockholders' (deficit)/equity	(1,410.4)	6,680.2	6,626.9	6,071.1	5,665.1	2,035.2
RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES ^(g)			2.1	2.2	2.1	2.8

Note references are to our Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements. See Item 8.

- (a) The Successor period of 2008 includes \$5.5 billion in pretax charges for impairment of intangible assets (see Note 3), \$16.2 million in pretax charges for other write-downs, reserves and recoveries (see Note 9), \$24.0 million in pretax charges related to the sale of the Company, and \$742.1 million in pretax credits for discounts related to, and write-offs associated with, debt retired before maturity.
- (b) The Predecessor period of 2008 includes \$4.7 million in pretax charges for write-downs, reserves and recoveries (see Note 9) and \$125.6 million in pretax charges related to the sale of the Company.
- (c) 2007 includes \$59.9 million in net pretax credits for write-downs, reserves and recoveries (see Note 9), \$13.4 million in pretax charges related to the proposed sale of the Company, and \$2.0 million in pretax charges for premiums paid for, and write-offs associated with, debt retired before maturity. 2007 also includes the financial results of Bill's Gambler's Hall & Saloon from its February 27, 2007, date of acquisition and Macau Orient Golf from its September 12, 2007 date of acquisition.
- (d) 2006 includes \$62.6 million in pretax charges for write-downs, reserves and recoveries (see Note 9), \$37.0 million in pretax charges related to the review of certain strategic matters by the special committee of our Board of Directors and the integration of Caesars in Harrah's Entertainment, and \$62.0 million in pretax charges for premiums paid for, and write-offs associated with, debt retired before maturity. 2006 also includes the financial results of London Clubs International from the date of our acquisition of a majority ownership interest in November 2006.
- (e) 2005 includes \$194.7 million in pretax charges for write-downs, reserves and recoveries, \$55.0 million in pretax charges related to our acquisition of Caesars Entertainment, Inc., and \$3.3 million in pretax charges for premiums paid for, and write-offs associated with, debt retired before maturity. 2005 also includes the financial results of Caesars Entertainment, Inc. from its June 13, 2005, date of acquisition.

Edgar Filing: HARRAHS ENTERTAINMENT INC - Form 10-K

- (f) 2004 includes \$9.6 million in pretax charges for write-downs, reserves and recoveries and \$2.3 million in pretax charges related to our pending acquisition of Caesars Entertainment, Inc. 2004 also includes the financial results of Horseshoe Gaming Holding Corp. from its July 1, 2004, date of acquisition.

- (g) Ratio computed based on (Loss)/income from continuing operations. For details of the computation of this ratio, see Exhibit 12. For the Predecessor and Successor period of 2008, our earnings were insufficient to cover fixed charges by \$122.5 million and \$5.5 billion, respectively.

ITEM 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.

Harrah's Entertainment, Inc., a Delaware corporation, was incorporated on November 2, 1989, and prior to such date operated under predecessor companies. In this discussion, the words Harrah's Entertainment, Company, we, our, and us refer to Harrah's Entertainment, Inc., together with subsidiaries where appropriate.

OVERVIEW

We are one of the largest casino entertainment providers in the world. As of December 31, 2008, we operated 53 casinos in six countries, but primarily in the United States and the United Kingdom. Our facilities operate primarily under the Harrah's, Caesars and Horseshoe brand names in the United States. Our properties include land-based casinos and casino hotels, dockside casinos, a combination greyhound racetrack and casino, a combination thoroughbred racetrack and casino, a combination harness racetrack and casino, casino clubs and managed casinos. We are focused on building customer loyalty through a unique combination of customer service, excellent products, unsurpassed distribution, operational excellence and technology leadership and on exploiting the value of our major hotel/casino brands Harrah's, Caesars and Horseshoe and our loyalty program, Total Rewards. We believe that the customer-relationship marketing and business-intelligence capabilities fueled by Total Rewards are constantly bringing us closer to our customers so we better understand their preferences, and from that understanding, we are able to improve entertainment experiences we offer accordingly.

On January 28, 2008, Harrah's Entertainment was acquired by affiliates of Apollo Global Management, LLC (Apollo) and TPG Capital, LP (TPG) in an all-cash transaction, hereinafter referred to as the Merger, valued at approximately \$30.7 billion, including the assumption of \$12.4 billion of debt and approximately \$1.0 billion of acquisition costs. Holders of Harrah's Entertainment stock received \$90.00 in cash for each outstanding share of common stock. As a result of the Merger, the issued and outstanding shares of non-voting common stock and non-voting preferred stock of Harrah's Entertainment are owned by entities affiliated with Apollo/TPG and certain co-investors and members of management, and the issued and outstanding shares of voting common stock of Harrah's Entertainment are owned by Hamlet Holdings LLC, which is owned by certain individuals affiliated with Apollo/TPG. As a result of the Merger, our stock is no longer publicly traded.

2008 was a difficult year for the casino industry as the broader economic slowdown affecting the United States and the rest of the world took its toll on the travel and leisure industry, including gaming. Rising unemployment, low consumer confidence and crisis in the financial markets, combined with smoking bans in several jurisdictions, have impacted both customer visitation to our casinos and spend per trip. We have implemented several efficiency improvements and cost savings programs in 2008 to meet the challenges of operating our casinos in the current economic environment.

OVERALL OPERATING RESULTS

In accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), we have separated our historical financial results for the Successor period and the Predecessor period; however, we have also combined results for the Successor and Predecessor periods for 2008 in the presentations below because we believe that it enables a meaningful presentation and comparison of results. As a result of the application of purchase accounting as of the Merger date, financial information for the Successor period and the Predecessor periods are presented on different bases and are, therefore, not comparable.

Because 2008 (Loss)/income from operations includes significant impairment charges, the following tables also present Income/(loss) from operations before impairment charges and the impairment charges to provide more meaningful comparisons of results. This presentation is not in accordance with GAAP.

Edgar Filing: HARRAHS ENTERTAINMENT INC - Form 10-K

Certain of our properties were sold during 2006, and their operating results prior to their sales were included in discontinued operations, if appropriate. Note 15 to our Consolidated Financial Statements provides information regarding dispositions. The discussion that follows is related to our continuing operations.

(In millions)	Successor	Predecessor	Predecessor		Percentage Increase/(Decrease)		
	Jan. 28, 2008 through Dec. 31, 2008	Jan. 1, 2008 through Jan. 27, 2008	Combined 2008	2007	2006	08 vs 07	07 vs 06
Casino revenues	\$ 7,476.9	\$ 614.6	\$ 8,091.5	\$ 8,831.0	\$ 7,868.6	(8.4)%	12.2%
Total revenues	\$ 9,366.9	\$ 760.1	\$ 10,127.0	\$ 10,825.2	\$ 9,673.9	(6.4)%	11.9%
Income/(loss) from operations before impairment charges	\$ 1,252.1	\$ (36.8)	\$ 1,215.3	\$ 1,821.6	\$ 1,577.3	(33.3)%	15.5%
Impairment of intangible assets	(5,489.6)		(5,489.6)	(169.6)	(20.7)	N/M	N/M
(Loss)/income from operations	\$ (4,237.5)	\$ (36.8)	\$ (4,274.3)	\$ 1,652.0	\$ 1,556.6	N/M	6.1%
(Loss)/income from continuing operations	\$ (5,186.7)	\$ (101.0)	\$ (5,287.7)	\$ 527.2	\$ 523.9	N/M	0.6%
Net (loss)/income	\$ (5,096.3)	\$ (100.9)	\$ (5,197.2)	\$ 619.4	\$ 535.8	N/M	15.6%

N/M = Not Meaningful

The decrease in 2008 revenues was primarily attributable to turbulent economic conditions in the United States that have reduced, in some cases dramatically, customer visitation to our casinos. The impact of a smoking ban in Illinois, heavy rains and flooding affecting visitor volumes at our properties in the Midwest and the temporary closure of Gulf Coast properties due to a hurricane also contributed to the decline in 2008 revenues. Income from continuing operations was also impacted by charges for impairment of certain goodwill and other intangible assets; expense incurred in connection with the Merger, primarily related to the accelerated vesting of employee stock options, stock appreciation rights (SARs) and restricted stock; and higher interest expense, partially offset by net gains from early extinguishments of debt and proceeds from the settlement of insurance claims related to hurricane damage in 2005.

The increase in 2007 revenues was driven by strong results from our properties in Las Vegas, the opening of slot play at Harrah s Chester in January 2007, contributions from properties included in our acquisition of London Clubs International Limited (London Clubs) in late 2006 and a full year s results from Harrah s New Orleans and Grand Casino Biloxi, which were closed for a portion of 2006 due to hurricane damage in 2005. Income from operations was impacted by insurance proceeds, impairment charges related to certain intangible assets and the effect on the Atlantic City market of slot operations at facilities in Pennsylvania and New York and the implementation of new smoking regulations in New Jersey, all of which are discussed in the following regional discussions.

REGIONAL RESULTS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANS

The executive decision makers of our Company review operating results, assess performance and make decisions related to the allocation of resources on a property-by-property basis. We, therefore, consider each property to be an operating segment and believe that it is appropriate to aggregate and present the operations of our Company as one reportable segment. In order to provide more detail in a more understandable manner than would be possible on a consolidated basis, our properties have been grouped as follows to facilitate discussion of our operating results:

Las Vegas
Caesars Palace

Atlantic City
Harrah s Atlantic City

Louisiana/Mississippi
Harrah s New Orleans

Iowa/Missouri
Harrah s St. Louis

Edgar Filing: HARRAHS ENTERTAINMENT INC - Form 10-K

Bally's Las Vegas
Flamingo Las Vegas
Harrah's Las Vegas
Paris Las Vegas

Showboat Atlantic City
Bally's Atlantic City
Caesars Atlantic City

Harrah's Louisiana Downs
Horseshoe Bossier City
Grand Biloxi

Harrah's North Kansas City
Harrah's Council Bluffs
Horseshoe Council Bluffs/

Rio
Imperial Palace
Bill's Gamblin Hall & Saloon

Harrah's Chest⁽⁴⁾

Harrah's Tunica⁽²⁾
Horseshoe Tunica
Sheraton Tunica

Bluffs Run

Edgar Filing: HARRAHS ENTERTAINMENT INC - Form 10-K

Illinois/Indiana	Other Nevada	Managed/International/Other
Horseshoe Southern Indiana ⁽³⁾	Harrah's Reno	Harrah's Ak-Chin ⁽⁴⁾
Harrah's Joliet ¹	Harrah's Lake Tahoe	Harrah's Cherokee ²
Harrah's Metropolis	Harveys Lake Tahoe	Harrah's Prairie Band (through 6/30/07 ⁴)
Horseshoe Hammond	Bill's Lake Tahoe	Harrah's Rincon ¹
	Harrah's Laughlin	Conrad Punta del Este ⁽¹⁾
		Caesars Windsor ⁽⁵⁾
		London Clubs International ⁽⁶⁾

- (1) Not wholly owned by Harrah's Entertainment.
- (2) Re-branded from Grand Casino Tunica in May 2008.
- (3) Re-branded from Caesars Indiana in July 2008.
- (4) Managed, not owned.
- (5) We have a 50 percent interest in Windsor Casino Limited, which manages this property. The province of Ontario owns the complex. The property was re-branded from Casino Windsor in June 2008.
- (6) Operates 11 casino clubs in the United Kingdom, 3 in Egypt and 1 in South Africa. Included in income from operations for each grouping are project opening costs, impairment of goodwill and other intangible assets and write-downs, reserves and recoveries. Project opening costs include costs incurred in connection with the integration of acquired properties into Harrah's Entertainment's systems and technology and costs incurred in connection with expansion and renovation projects at various properties.

We perform annual assessments for impairment of goodwill and other intangible assets that are not subject to amortization as of September 30 each year. Based on projected performance, which reflects factors impacted by current market conditions, including lower valuation multiples for gaming assets; higher discount rates resulting from on-going turmoil in the credit markets; and the completion of our annual budget and forecasting process, our 2008 analysis indicated that certain of our goodwill and other intangible assets were impaired. A charge of \$5.5 billion was recorded to our Consolidated Statement of Operations in fourth quarter 2008. Our 2007 analysis determined that, based on historical and projected performance, intangible assets at London Clubs and Horseshoe Southern Indiana had been impaired, and we recorded impairment charges of \$169.6 million in fourth quarter 2007. Our 2006 analysis indicated that, based on the historical performance and projected performance of Harrah's Louisiana Downs, intangible assets of that property had been impaired, and a charge of \$20.7 million was recorded in fourth quarter 2006. Our 2008, 2007 and 2006 analyses of the tangible assets, applying the provisions of SFAS No. 144, indicated that the carrying value of the tangible assets was not impaired.

Write-downs, reserves and recoveries include various pretax charges to record asset impairments, contingent liability reserves, project write-offs, demolition costs and recoveries of previously recorded reserves and other non-routine transactions. The components of Write-downs, reserves and recoveries were as follows:

(In millions)	Successor	Predecessor	Predecessor	
	Jan. 28, 2008	Jan. 1, 2008	Combined 2008	2007
	through Dec. 31, 2008	through Jan. 27, 2008		2006
Remediation costs	\$ 60.5	\$ 4.4	\$ 64.9	\$

Edgar Filing: HARRAHS ENTERTAINMENT INC - Form 10-K

Impairment of long-term assets	39.6		39.6		23.6
Write-off of abandoned assets	34.3		34.3	21.0	0.2
Efficiency projects	29.4	0.6	30.0	21.5	5.2
Termination of contracts	14.4		14.4		
Litigation awards and settlements	10.1		10.1	8.5	32.5
Demolition costs	9.2	0.2	9.4	7.3	11.4
Other	4.1	(0.5)	3.6	12.1	(0.1)
Insurance proceeds in excess of deferred costs	(185.4)		(185.4)	(130.3)	(10.2)
	\$ 16.2	\$ 4.7	\$ 20.9	\$ (59.9)	\$ 62.6

Remediation costs relate to room remediation projects at certain of our Las Vegas properties.

Edgar Filing: HARRAHS ENTERTAINMENT INC - Form 10-K

Impairment of long-term assets in 2008 represents declines in the market value of certain assets that are held for sale and reserves for amounts that are not expected to be recovered for other non-operating assets. The impairment in 2006 resulted from an assessment of certain bonds classified as held-to-maturity and the determination that they were highly uncollectible.

Write-off of abandoned assets represents costs associated with various projects that are determined to no longer be viable.

Efficiency projects in 2006 and 2007 represents costs incurred to identify efficiencies and cost savings in our corporate organization. Expense in 2008 represents costs related to additional projects aimed at stream-lining corporate and operations functions to achieve further cost savings and efficiencies.

Termination of contracts in 2008 represents amounts recognized in connection with abandonment of buildings under long-term lease arrangements.

Insurance proceeds in excess of deferred costs represents proceeds received from our insurance carriers for hurricane damages incurred in 2005. The proceeds included in Write-downs, reserves and recoveries are for those properties that we still own and operate. Proceeds related to properties that were subsequently sold are included in Discontinued operations in our Consolidated Statements of Operations.

Las Vegas Results

(In millions)	Successor	Predecessor	Combined	Predecessor		Percentage	
	Jan. 28, 2008 through Dec. 31, 2008	Jan. 1, 2008 through Jan. 27, 2008		2007	2006	08 vs 07	07 vs 06
Casino revenues	\$ 1,579.9	\$ 138.7	\$ 1,718.6	\$ 1,986.6	\$ 1,726.5	(13.5)%	15.1%
Total revenues	\$ 3,000.6	\$ 253.6	\$ 3,254.2	\$ 3,626.7	\$ 3,267.2	(10.3)%	11.0%
Income from operations before impairment charges	\$ 591.4	\$ 51.9	\$ 643.3	\$ 886.4	\$ 828.2	(27.4)%	7.0%
Impairment of intangible assets	(2,579.4)		(2,579.4)			N/M	N/M
(Loss)/income from operations	\$ (1,988.0)	\$ 51.9	\$ (1,936.1)	\$ 886.4	\$ 828.2	N/M	7.0%
Operating margin before impairment charges	19.7%	20.5%	19.8%	24.4%	25.3%	(4.6)pts	(0.9) pt

N/M=Not meaningful

The declines in revenues and income from operations in 2008 reflect lower visitation and spend per trip as our customers reacted to higher travel costs, volatility in the financial markets and other economic concerns. Fewer hotel rooms available at Caesars Palace due to re-modeling and at Harrah's Las Vegas and Rio due to room remediation projects also contributed to the 2008 decline. Income from operations for Las Vegas includes charges of \$2.6 billion recorded in fourth quarter 2008 for the impairment of certain goodwill and other non-amortizing intangible assets. The impairment charge is included in Write-downs, reserves and recoveries in our 2008 Consolidated Statement of Operations.

An expansion and renovation of Caesars Palace Las Vegas is underway, which will include a hotel tower with approximately 660 rooms, including 75 luxury suites, 110,000 square feet of additional meeting and convention space, three 10,000 square foot villas and an expanded pool and garden area. We have announced that we will defer completion of the hotel tower expansion as a result of current economic conditions impacting the Las Vegas tourism sector. The estimated total capital expenditures for the project, excluding the costs to complete the deferred rooms, are expected to be \$681.0 million, \$335.2 million of which had been spent as of December 31, 2008. This expansion is scheduled for completion in mid-summer 2009.

Increases in revenues and income from operations in 2007 were generated by increased visitor volume, cross-market play (defined as gaming by customers at Harrah's Entertainment properties other than their home casinos) and the acquisition of Bill's Gambling Hall & Saloon.

Edgar Filing: HARRAHS ENTERTAINMENT INC - Form 10-K

On February 27, 2007, we exchanged certain real estate that we owned on the Las Vegas Strip for property located at the northeast corner of Flamingo Road and Las Vegas Boulevard between Bally's Las Vegas and Flamingo Las Vegas. We began operating the acquired property on March 1, 2007, as Bill's Gamblin Hall & Saloon, and its results are included in our operating results from the date of its acquisition.

Atlantic City Results

(In millions)	Successor	Predecessor	Combined	Predecessor		Percentage	
	Jan. 28, 2008	Jan. 1, 2008		2007	2006	08 vs 07	07 vs 06
	through	through	2008				
	Dec. 31, 2008	Jan. 27, 2008					
Casino revenues	\$ 2,111.8	\$ 163.4	\$ 2,275.2	\$ 2,429.9	\$ 2,147.2	(6.4)%	13.2%
Total revenues	\$ 2,156.0	\$ 160.8	\$ 2,316.8	\$ 2,372.0	\$ 2,071.4	(2.3)%	14.5%
Income from operations before impairment charges	\$ 284.5	\$ 18.7	\$ 303.2	\$ 351.4	\$ 420.5	(13.7)%	(16.4)%
Impairment of intangible assets	(699.9)		(699.9)			N/M	N/M
(Loss)/income from operations	\$ (415.4)	\$ 18.7	\$ (396.7)	\$ 351.4	\$ 420.5	N/M	(16.4)%
Operating margin before impairment charges	13.2%	11.6%	13.1%	14.8%	20.3%	(1.7) pts	(5.5) pts

N/M=Not meaningful

Combined 2008 revenues and income from operations for the Atlantic City region were down from 2007 due to reduced visitor volume, and spend per trip and higher operating costs, including utilities and employee benefits. Declines were partially offset by favorable results from Harrah's Chester and from Harrah's Atlantic City, which benefited from the recent expansion and upgrade at that property. The Atlantic City market continues to be affected by the opening of three slot parlors in eastern Pennsylvania and one in Yonkers, New York, and smoking restrictions in Atlantic City. Income from operations for the Atlantic City region includes a charge of \$699.9 million recorded in fourth quarter 2008 for the impairment of certain goodwill and other non-amortizing intangible assets. The impairment charge is included in Write-downs, reserves and recoveries in our 2008 Consolidated Statement of Operations.

Construction was completed in 2008 on a \$498.6 million upgrade and expansion of Harrah's Atlantic City, which includes a new hotel tower with approximately 960 rooms, a casino expansion, a new buffet and a retail and entertainment complex. Portions of the new hotel tower opened in the first and second quarters of 2008, and the remaining phase opened in July 2008.

Atlantic City regional revenues were higher in 2007 as compared to 2006 due to the inclusion of Harrah's Chester, which opened for simulcasting and live harness racing on September 10, 2006, and for slot play on January 22, 2007. The Atlantic City market was affected by the opening of slot operations at the three facilities in eastern Pennsylvania and one in New York, and the implementation of new smoking regulations in New Jersey, resulting in lower revenues for the market. Additionally, promotional and marketing costs aimed at attracting and retaining customers and a shift of revenues from Atlantic City to Pennsylvania, where tax rates are higher, resulted in higher operating expenses as compared to 2006.

2006 revenues and income from operations were negatively impacted by a three-day government-imposed casino shutdown during the year. Casinos in Atlantic City were closed from July 5 until July 8, 2006, as non-essential state agencies, including the New Jersey Casino Control Commission, were shut down by the state due to lack of a budget agreement for the state. In New Jersey, Casino Control Commission Inspectors must be on site in order for casinos to operate.

Louisiana/Mississippi Results

(In millions)	Successor	Predecessor	Combined	Predecessor		Percentage	
		Jan. 1, 2008	2008	2007	2006	08 vs 07	07 vs 06

Edgar Filing: HARRAHS ENTERTAINMENT INC - Form 10-K

	Jan. 28, 2008 through Dec. 31, 2008	through Jan. 27, 2008						
Casino revenues	\$ 1,252.7	\$ 99.0	\$ 1,351.7	\$ 1,462.5	\$ 1,351.4	(7.6)%	8.2%	
Total revenues	\$ 1,340.8	\$ 106.1	\$ 1,446.9	\$ 1,538.7	\$ 1,384.3	(6.0)%	11.2%	
Income from operations before impairment charges	\$ 357.2	\$ 10.1	\$ 367.3	\$ 352.1	\$ 254.1	4.3%	38.6%	
Impairment of intangible assets	(328.9)		(328.9)		(20.7)	N/M	N/M	
Income from operations	\$ 28.3	\$ 10.1	\$ 38.4	\$ 352.1	\$ 233.4	(89.1)%	50.9%	
Operating margin before impairment charges	26.6%	9.5%	25.4%	22.9%	18.4%			