

BARNES & NOBLE INC
Form 10-Q
March 04, 2016
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UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

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 January 30, 2016

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: 1-12302

BARNES & NOBLE, INC.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

| | |
|--|--|
| Delaware (State or Other Jurisdiction of | 06-1196501 (I.R.S. Employer |
| Incorporation or Organization) | Identification No.) |
| 122 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY (Address of Principal Executive Offices) | 10011 (Zip Code) |
| (212) 633-3300 | |
| (Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code) | |

(Former Name, Former Address and Former Fiscal Year, if Changed Since Last Report)

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

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

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

Large accelerated filer Accelerated filer
Non-accelerated filer (Do not check if a smaller reporting company) Smaller reporting company
Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes No

As of February 29, 2016, 74,693,567 shares of Common Stock, par value \$0.001 per share, were outstanding, which number includes 64,414 shares of unvested restricted stock that have voting rights and are held by members of the Board of Directors and the Company's employees.

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BARNES & NOBLE, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

Fiscal Quarter Ended January 30, 2016

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Table of Contents**PART I - FINANCIAL INFORMATION****Item 1: Financial Statements****BARNES & NOBLE, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES****Consolidated Statements of Operations****(In thousands, except per share data)****(unaudited)**

| | 13 weeks ended | | 39 weeks ended | |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| | January 30, 2016 | January 31, 2015 | January 30, 2016 | January 31, 2015 |
| Sales | \$ 1,413,947 | 1,440,132 | \$ 3,287,160 | 3,387,029 |
| Cost of sales and occupancy | 922,292 | 934,348 | 2,225,621 | 2,260,912 |
| Gross profit | 491,655 | 505,784 | 1,061,539 | 1,126,117 |
| Selling and administrative expenses | 322,652 | 339,432 | 885,063 | 911,079 |
| Depreciation and amortization | 35,147 | 35,271 | 103,864 | 109,950 |
| Operating income | 133,856 | 131,081 | 72,612 | 105,088 |
| Interest expense, net and amortization of deferred financing fees | 1,976 | 3,521 | 7,233 | 14,723 |
| Income before taxes | 131,880 | 127,560 | 65,379 | 90,365 |
| Income taxes | 51,618 | 88,583 | 20,071 | 54,474 |
| Net income from continuing operations | \$ 80,262 | 38,977 | \$ 45,308 | 35,891 |
| Net income (loss) from discontinued operations | | 33,191 | (39,146) | 20,126 |
| Net income | \$ 80,262 | 72,168 | \$ 6,162 | 56,017 |
| Basic income (loss) per common share: | | | | |
| Income from continuing operations | \$ 1.04 | 0.45 | \$ 0.48 | 0.27 |
| Income (loss) from discontinued operations | | 0.51 | (0.54) | 0.32 |
| Basic income (loss) per common share | \$ 1.04 | 0.96 | \$ (0.06) | 0.58 |
| Diluted income (loss) per common share: | | | | |
| Income from continuing operations | \$ 1.04 | 0.45 | \$ 0.48 | 0.27 |
| Income (loss) from discontinued operations | | 0.51 | (0.54) | 0.32 |

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|--|----|--------|--------|----|--------|--------|
| Diluted income (loss) per common share | \$ | 1.04 | 0.96 | \$ | (0.06) | 0.58 |
| Weighted average common shares outstanding | | | | | | |
| Basic | | 74,856 | 61,589 | | 71,987 | 60,056 |
| Diluted | | 74,924 | 61,711 | | 72,124 | 60,128 |
| Dividends declared per common share | \$ | 0.15 | | \$ | 0.45 | |
| See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements. | | | | | | |

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BARNES & NOBLE, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income (Loss)

(In thousands)

(unaudited)

| | 13 weeks ended | | 39 weeks ended | |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| | January 30, 2016 | January 31, 2015 | January 30, 2016 | January 31, 2015 |
| Net income | \$ 80,262 | 72,168 | \$ 6,162 | 56,017 |
| Other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax: | | | | |
| (Increase) decrease in minimum pension liability (net of deferred tax benefit of \$2,208) | | 3,065 | | (12,682) |
| Pension reclassification (see Note 18) | | 7,271 | | 7,271 |
| Total comprehensive income | \$ 80,262 | 82,504 | \$ 6,162 | 50,606 |

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents**BARNES & NOBLE, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES****Consolidated Balance Sheets****(In thousands, except per share data)****(unaudited)**

| | January 30, 2016 | January 31, 2015 | May 2, 2015 |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| ASSETS | | | |
| Current assets: | | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$ 63,557 | 152,062 | 14,646 |
| Receivables, net | 69,364 | 73,286 | 60,265 |
| Merchandise inventories, net | 1,043,930 | 1,031,376 | 995,738 |
| Prepaid expenses and other current assets | 66,674 | 66,683 | 93,965 |
| Short-term deferred taxes | 117,816 | 121,845 | 117,816 |
| Current assets of discontinued operations | | 922,346 | 472,618 |
| Total current assets | 1,361,341 | 2,367,598 | 1,755,048 |
| Property and equipment: | | | |
| Land and land improvements | 2,541 | 2,541 | 2,541 |
| Buildings and leasehold improvements | 1,047,357 | 1,064,874 | 1,057,975 |
| Fixtures and equipment | 1,571,457 | 1,692,275 | 1,531,315 |
| | 2,621,355 | 2,759,690 | 2,591,831 |
| Less accumulated depreciation and amortization | 2,314,176 | 2,410,361 | 2,250,096 |
| Net property and equipment | 307,179 | 349,329 | 341,735 |
| Goodwill | 215,197 | 219,119 | 215,197 |
| Intangible assets, net | 311,066 | 316,297 | 315,653 |
| Other noncurrent assets | 11,637 | 9,795 | 7,905 |
| Noncurrent assets of discontinued operations | | 614,105 | 619,701 |
| Total assets | \$ 2,206,420 | 3,876,243 | 3,255,239 |
| LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS EQUITY | | | |
| Current liabilities: | | | |
| Accounts payable | \$ 576,958 | 595,947 | 484,574 |
| Accrued liabilities | 334,314 | 374,248 | 326,660 |
| Gift card liabilities | 384,915 | 390,102 | 358,146 |
| Current liabilities of discontinued operations | | 673,903 | 303,613 |
| Total current liabilities | 1,296,187 | 2,034,200 | 1,472,993 |

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| | | | |
|---|---------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Long-term deferred taxes | 134,105 | 144,088 | 133,611 |
| Other long-term liabilities | 138,668 | 155,334 | 162,209 |
| Noncurrent liabilities of discontinued operations | | 132,068 | 101,009 |
| Redeemable Preferred Shares; \$0.001 par value; 5,000 shares authorized; 0, 204 and 204 shares issued, respectively | | 195,744 | 196,059 |
| Shareholders' equity: | | | |
| Common stock; \$0.001 par value; 300,000 shares authorized; 110,740, 97,485 and 98,115 shares issued, respectively | 111 | 97 | 98 |
| Additional paid-in capital | 1,734,898 | 1,924,130 | 1,927,997 |
| Accumulated other comprehensive loss | (16,533) | (17,184) | (16,533) |
| Retained earnings | 17,629 | 381,190 | 357,512 |
| Treasury stock, at cost, 36,797, 34,580 and 34,841 shares, respectively | (1,098,645) | (1,073,424) | (1,079,716) |
| Total shareholders' equity | 637,460 | 1,214,809 | 1,189,358 |
| Commitments and contingencies | | | |
| Total liabilities and shareholders' equity | \$ 2,206,420 | 3,876,243 | 3,255,239 |

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents**BARNES & NOBLE, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES****Consolidated Statement of Changes in Shareholders' Equity****For the 39 weeks ended January 30, 2016****(In thousands)****(unaudited)**

| | Barnes & Noble, Inc. Shareholders' Equity | | | | | Total |
|--|---|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|--------------|
| | Common Stock | Additional Paid-In Capital | Other Comprehensive Losses | Retained Earnings | Treasury Stock at Cost | |
| Balance at May 2, 2015 | \$ 98 | 1,927,997 | (16,533) | 357,512 | (1,079,716) | \$ 1,189,358 |
| Net income | | | | 6,162 | | 6,162 |
| Exercise of 126 common stock options | 1 | 1,301 | | | | 1,302 |
| Stock options and restricted stock tax benefits | | 1,216 | | | | 1,216 |
| Stock-based compensation expense | | 11,631 | | | | 11,631 |
| Accretive dividend on preferred stockholders and membership interests | | | | (4,204) | | (4,204) |
| Inducement fee paid upon conversion of Series J preferred stock | | | | (3,657) | | (3,657) |
| Cash dividends declared | | | | (34,811) | | (34,811) |
| Accrued dividends for long-term incentive awards | | | | (326) | | (326) |
| Purchase of treasury stock related to stock-based compensation, 157 shares | | | | | (2,440) | (2,440) |
| Treasury stock repurchase plan, 1,799 shares | | | | | (16,489) | (16,489) |
| Dividend to preferred shareholders paid in shares | | 1,783 | | (1,783) | | |
| Common shares issued upon conversion of Series J preferred stock | 12 | 200,250 | | | | 200,262 |
| Cash settlement of equity award | | (8,022) | | | | (8,022) |
| Separation of B&N Education, Inc. | | (401,258) | | (301,264) | | (702,522) |
| Balance at January 30, 2016 | \$ 111 | 1,734,898 | (16,533) | 17,629 | (1,098,645) | \$ 637,460 |

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents**BARNES & NOBLE, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES****Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows****For the 39 weeks ended January 30, 2016 and January 31, 2015****(In thousands)****(unaudited)**

| | 39 weeks ended | |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|
| | January 30, 2016 | January 31, 2015 |
| Cash flows from operating activities: | | |
| Net income | \$ 6,162 | 56,017 |
| Net income (loss) from discontinued operations | (39,146) | 20,126 |
| Net income from continuing operations | \$ 45,308 | 35,891 |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash flows from operating activities: | | |
| Depreciation and amortization (including amortization of deferred financing fees) | 106,657 | 114,057 |
| Stock-based compensation expense | 10,943 | 14,243 |
| Impairment charges | 3,922 | 366 |
| Deferred taxes | | (3,755) |
| Loss on disposal of property and equipment | 1,220 | 965 |
| Decrease in other long-term liabilities | (23,541) | (25,967) |
| Pension reclassification | | 7,271 |
| Changes in operating assets and liabilities, net | 101,543 | (18,188) |
| Net cash flows provided by operating activities | 246,052 | 124,883 |
| Cash flows from investing activities: | | |
| Purchases of property and equipment | (69,785) | (65,666) |
| Net (increase) decrease in other noncurrent assets | (902) | 478 |
| Net cash flows used in investing activities | (70,687) | (65,188) |
| Cash flows from financing activities: | | |
| Cash dividends paid | (34,811) | |
| Cash dividends paid to preferred shareholders | (3,941) | (12,085) |
| Proceeds from credit facility | 659,400 | 349,400 |
| Payments on credit facility | (659,400) | (349,400) |
| Proceeds from exercise of common stock options | 1,302 | 1,017 |
| Excess tax benefit from stock-based compensation | 1,768 | 1,096 |
| Purchase of treasury stock related to stock-based compensation | (2,440) | (4,315) |
| Treasury stock repurchase plan | (16,489) | |
| Payment of new credit facility related fees | (5,701) | |

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| | | |
|--|------------|-----------|
| Cash settlement of equity award | (8,022) | |
| Inducement fee paid upon conversion of Series J preferred stock | (3,657) | |
| Net proceeds from Microsoft commercial agreement financing arrangement | | 57,161 |
| Payment of junior seller note | | (127,250) |
| Acquisition of preferred membership interests | | (76,175) |
| Net cash flows used in financing activities | (71,991) | (160,551) |
| Cash flows from discontinued operations: | | |
| Operating cash flows | (81,643) | 126,870 |
| Investing cash flows | (16,505) | (39,503) |
| Financing cash flows (including cash at date of Spin-Off) | (16,029) | |
| Net cash flows provided by (used in) discontinued operations | (114,177) | 87,367 |
| Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents | (10,803) | (13,489) |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period | 74,360 | 340,171 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at end of period | 63,557 | 326,682 |
| Cash and cash equivalents of discontinued operations | | (174,620) |
| Cash and cash equivalents at end of period | \$ 63,557 | 152,062 |
| Changes in operating assets and liabilities, net: | | |
| Receivables, net | \$ (9,099) | 31,694 |
| Merchandise inventories | (48,192) | (72,086) |
| Prepaid expenses and other current assets | 27,291 | (946) |
| Accounts payable and accrued liabilities | 131,543 | 23,150 |
| Changes in operating assets and liabilities, net | \$ 101,543 | (18,188) |

Table of Contents**BARNES & NOBLE, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES****Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows (continued)****For the 39 weeks ended January 30, 2016 and January 31, 2015****(In thousands)****(unaudited)**

| | 39 weeks ended | |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|
| | January 30, 2016 | January 31, 2015 |
| Supplemental cash flow information: | | |
| Cash paid during the period for: | | |
| Interest | \$ 11,105 | 15,040 |
| Income taxes (net of refunds) | \$ 7,724 | 50,079 |
| Non-cash financing activity: | | |
| Accrued dividends for long-term incentive awards | \$ 326 | |
| Dividend to preferred stockholders paid in shares | \$ 1,783 | |
| Issuance of common stock upon conversion of Series J preferred stock | \$ 200,262 | |
| Accrued dividend on redeemable preferred stock | \$ | 3,942 |
| Acquisition of preferred membership interests for 2,737 shares of common stock of Barnes & Noble | \$ | (76,175) |
| See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements. | | |

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BARNES & NOBLE, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

For the 39 weeks ended January 30, 2016 and January 31, 2015

(Thousands of dollars, except per share data)

(unaudited)

The unaudited consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Barnes & Noble, Inc. and its subsidiaries (collectively, Barnes & Noble or the Company).

In the opinion of the Company's management, the accompanying unaudited consolidated financial statements of the Company contain all adjustments (consisting of only normal recurring adjustments) necessary to present fairly its consolidated financial position as of January 30, 2016 and the results of its operations for the 13 and 39 weeks and its cash flows for the 39 weeks then ended. These consolidated financial statements are condensed and therefore do not include all of the information and footnotes required by generally accepted accounting principles. The consolidated financial statements should be read in conjunction with the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the 52 weeks ended May 2, 2015 (fiscal 2015).

Due to the seasonal nature of the business, the results of operations for the 39 weeks ended January 30, 2016 are not indicative of the results expected for the 52 weeks ending April 30, 2016 (fiscal 2016).

1. Separation of B&N Education, Inc.

On February 26, 2015, Barnes & Noble announced plans for the legal and structural separation of Barnes & Noble Education, Inc. (Barnes & Noble Education or B&N Education) (formerly known as NOOK Media Inc.) from Barnes & Noble into an independent public company (the Spin-Off).

On July 14, 2015, the Barnes & Noble board of directors (the Board) approved the final distribution ratio and declared a pro rata dividend of the outstanding shares of B&N Education common stock, which would result in the complete legal and structural separation of the two companies. The distribution was subject to the satisfaction or waiver of certain conditions as set forth in B&N Education's Registration Statement on Form S-1, which was filed with the SEC on February 26, 2015 and was amended on April 29, 2015, June 4, 2015, June 29, 2015, July 13, 2015, July 14, 2015 and July 15, 2015.

On August 2, 2015, Barnes & Noble completed the Spin-Off of Barnes & Noble Education and distributed, on a pro rata basis, all of the shares of B&N Education common stock to the Company's stockholders of record as of July 27, 2015. These Barnes & Noble stockholders of record as of July 27, 2015 received a distribution of 0.632 shares of B&N Education common stock for each share of Barnes & Noble common stock held as of the record date. Immediately following the completion of the Spin-Off, the Company's stockholders owned 100% of the outstanding shares of common stock of B&N Education. Following the Spin-Off, B&N Education operates as an independent public company and as the parent of Barnes & Noble College, trading on New York Stock Exchange under the ticker symbol **BNED**.

In connection with the separation of B&N Education, the Company and B&N Education entered into a Separation and Distribution Agreement on July 14, 2015 and several other ancillary agreements on August 2, 2015. These agreements govern the relationship between the Company and B&N Education after the separation and allocate between the Company and B&N Education various assets, liabilities, rights and obligations following the separation, including employee benefits, intellectual property, information technology, insurance and tax-related assets and liabilities. The agreements also describe the Company's future commitments to provide B&N Education with certain transition services.

This Spin-Off is expected to be a non-taxable event for Barnes & Noble and its shareholders, and Barnes & Noble's U.S. shareholders (other than those subject to special rules) generally will not recognize gain or loss as a result of the distribution of B&N Education shares.

2. History of B&N Education, Inc.

On September 30, 2009, Barnes & Noble acquired Barnes & Noble College Booksellers, LLC (B&N College) from Leonard and Louise Riggio. From that date until October 4, 2012, B&N College was wholly owned by Barnes & Noble Booksellers, Inc. B&N Education was initially incorporated under the name NOOK Media Inc. in July 2012 to hold Barnes & Noble's B&N College and NOOK digital businesses. On October 4, 2012, Microsoft Corporation (Microsoft) acquired a 17.6% non-controlling preferred membership interest in B&N Education's subsidiary B&N Education, LLC (formerly NOOK Media LLC) (the LLC), and through B&N Education, Barnes & Noble maintained an 82.4% controlling interest of the B&N College and NOOK digital businesses.

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On January 22, 2013, Pearson Education, Inc. (Pearson) acquired a 5% non-controlling preferred membership interest in the LLC, entered into a commercial agreement with the LLC relating to the B&N College business and received warrants to purchase an additional preferred membership interest in the LLC.

On December 4, 2014, B&N Education re-acquired Microsoft's interest in the LLC in exchange for cash and common stock of Barnes & Noble and the Microsoft commercial agreement was terminated effective as of such date. On December 22, 2014, B&N Education also re-acquired Pearson's interest in the LLC and certain related warrants previously issued to Pearson. In connection with these transactions, Barnes & Noble entered into contingent payment agreements with Microsoft and Pearson providing for additional payments upon the occurrence of certain events, including upon a sale of the NOOK digital business. As a result of these transactions, Barnes & Noble owned, prior to the Spin-Off, 100% of B&N Education.

On May 1, 2015, B&N Education distributed to Barnes & Noble all of the membership interests in B&N Education's NOOK digital business. As a result, B&N Education ceased to own any interest in the NOOK digital business, which remains a wholly owned subsidiary of Barnes & Noble.

On July 14, 2015, the Board approved the final distribution ratio and declared a pro rata dividend of the outstanding shares of B&N Education common stock, which resulted in the complete legal and structural separation of the two companies on August 2, 2015.

3. **Discontinued Operations of Barnes & Noble Education**

The Company has recognized the separation of B&N Education in accordance with Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) 205-20, *Discontinued Operations*. As such, the historical results of Barnes & Noble Education for the 13 and 39 weeks ended January 31, 2015 have been adjusted to include pre-spin B&N Education results and separation-related costs and exclude corporate allocations with B&N Retail, and have been classified as discontinued operations. Additionally, discontinued operations for the 39 weeks ended January 30, 2016 include investment banking fees (as they directly relate to the Spin-Off), as well as pre-spin B&N Education results and separation-related costs and exclude corporate allocation adjustments with B&N Retail.

The following unaudited financial information presents the discontinued operations for the 13 weeks and 39 weeks ended January 30, 2016 and January 31, 2015.

| | 13 weeks ended | | 39 weeks ended | |
|--|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| | January 30, 2016 | January 31, 2015 | January 30, 2016 | January 31, 2015 |
| Sales | \$ | 521,019 | \$ 238,983 | 1,498,389 |
| Cost of sales and occupancy | | 398,766 | 186,697 | 1,153,890 |
| Gross profit | | 122,253 | 52,286 | 344,499 |
| Selling and administrative expenses | | 91,231 | 94,933 | 264,792 |
| Depreciation and amortization | | 12,583 | 13,100 | 37,635 |
| Operating profit (loss) from discontinued operations | | 18,439 | (55,747) | 42,072 |

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| | | | | |
|---|----|----------|-------------|--------|
| Interest expense, net and amortization of deferred financing fees | | 30 | 3 | 49 |
| Income (loss) before taxes from discontinued operations | | 18,409 | (55,750) | 42,023 |
| Income taxes | | (14,782) | (16,604) | 21,897 |
| Net income (loss) from discontinued operations | \$ | 33,191 | \$ (39,146) | 20,126 |

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The following unaudited table presents the aggregate carrying amounts of the classes of assets and liabilities of discontinued operations:

| | January 31, 2015 | May 2, 2015 |
|--|---------------------|------------------|
| Carrying amounts of assets included as part of discontinued operations: | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$ 174,620 | 59,714 |
| Receivables, net | 188,477 | 38,311 |
| Merchandise inventories, net | 462,062 | 297,425 |
| Prepaid expenses and other current assets | 73,164 | 52,176 |
| Short-term deferred taxes | 24,023 | 24,992 |
| Total current assets | 922,346 | 472,618 |
| Property and equipment: | | |
| Buildings and leasehold improvements | 152,818 | 149,065 |
| Fixtures and equipment | 328,779 | 335,404 |
| | 481,597 | 484,469 |
| Less accumulated depreciation and amortization | 376,863 | 376,911 |
| Net property and equipment | 104,734 | 107,558 |
| Goodwill | 274,070 | 274,070 |
| Intangible assets, net | 200,753 | 198,190 |
| Other noncurrent assets | 34,548 | 39,883 |
| Total assets classified as discontinued operations in the consolidated balance sheet | \$ 1,536,451 | 1,092,319 |
| Carrying amounts of liabilities included as part of discontinued operations: | | |
| Accounts payable | \$ 484,167 | 170,490 |
| Accrued liabilities | 189,736 | 133,123 |
| Total current liabilities | 673,903 | 303,613 |
| Long-term deferred taxes | 70,209 | 66,916 |
| Other long-term liabilities | 61,859 | 34,093 |
| Total liabilities classified as discontinued operations in the consolidated balance sheet | \$ 805,971 | 404,622 |

4. Resignation Charge

On August 2, 2015, Michael P. Huseby resigned from the Company's Board of Directors and as Chief Executive Officer of the Company, which was contingent upon the successful separation of B&N Education. In connection with his termination of employment, he received severance payments based on the terms of his employment agreement with the Company, effective as of January 7, 2014. Under the terms of his employment agreement, upon a resignation for "Good Reason", Mr. Huseby was entitled to receive lump-sum severance equal to two times the sum of (a) annual base salary, (b) the average annual incentive compensation paid to the named executive officer with respect to the preceding two completed years and (c) the cost of benefits. In addition, Mr. Huseby was entitled to accelerated vesting of the equity-based awards granted pursuant to his employment agreement. As a result, Mr. Huseby received a severance payment equal to \$7,742 and additionally was entitled to 300,000 shares of the Company's common stock pursuant to the accelerated vesting of the equity-based awards, which were settled for cash based on the closing price of the Company's common stock on the record date of the Spin-Off in an amount equal to \$8,022. The net cash payments related to Mr. Huseby's resignation totaled \$15,764 during the second quarter ending October 31, 2015. Mr. Huseby's 300,000 shares have been ratably expensed from the initial grant date, thereby reducing the total resignation charge to \$10,510, which was recorded within selling and administrative expenses during the second quarter ending October 31, 2015.

5. Merchandise Inventories

Merchandise inventories, which primarily consist of finished goods, are stated at the lower of cost or market. Cost is determined primarily by the retail inventory method under the first-in, first-out (FIFO) basis. NOOK merchandise inventories are recorded based on the average cost method.

Market is determined based on the estimated net realizable value, which is generally the selling price. Reserves for non-returnable inventory are based on the Company's history of liquidating non-returnable inventory.

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The Company also estimates and accrues shortage for the period between the last physical count of inventory and the balance sheet date. Shortage rates are estimated and accrued based on historical rates and can be affected by changes in merchandise mix and changes in actual shortage trends.

6. Revenue Recognition

Revenue from sales of the Company's products is recognized at the time of sale or shipment, other than those with multiple elements and Free On Board (FOB) destination point shipping terms. The Company accrues for estimated sales returns in the period in which the related revenue is recognized based on historical experience. ECommerce revenue from sales of products ordered through the Company's websites is recognized upon estimated delivery and receipt of the shipment by its customers. Sales taxes collected from retail customers are excluded from reported revenues. All of the Company's sales are recognized as revenue on a net basis, including sales in connection with any periodic promotions offered to customers. The Company does not treat any promotional offers as expenses.

In accordance with ASC 605-25, *Revenue Recognition, Multiple-Element Arrangements*, and Accounting Standards Updates (ASU) No. 2009-13 and 2009-14, for multiple-element arrangements that involve tangible products that contain software that is essential to the tangible product's functionality, undelivered software elements that relate to the tangible product's essential software and other separable elements, the Company allocates revenue to all deliverables using the relative selling-price method. Under this method, revenue is allocated at the time of sale to all deliverables based on their relative selling price using a specific hierarchy. The hierarchy is as follows: vendor-specific objective evidence, third-party evidence of selling price, or best estimate of selling price. NOOK® device revenue is recognized at the segment point of sale.

The Company includes post-service customer support (PCS) in the form of software updates and potential increased functionality on a when-and-if-available basis with the purchase of a NOOK® from the Company. Using the relative selling price described above, the Company allocates revenue based on the best estimate of selling price for the deliverables as no vendor-specific objective evidence or third-party evidence exists for any of the elements. Revenue allocated to NOOK® and the software essential to its functionality is recognized at the time of sale, provided all other conditions for revenue recognition are met. Revenue allocated to the PCS is deferred and recognized on a straight-line basis over the 2-year estimated life of a NOOK®.

The average percentage of a NOOK®'s sales price that is deferred for undelivered items and recognized over its 2-year estimated life ranges between 0% and 4%, depending on the type of device sold. The amount of NOOK®-related deferred revenue as of January 30, 2016, January 31, 2015 and May 2, 2015 was \$283, \$3,542 and \$2,345, respectively. These amounts are classified on the Company's balance sheet in accrued liabilities for the portion that is subject to deferral for one year or less and other long-term liabilities for the portion that is subject to deferral for more than one year.

The Company also pays certain vendors who distributed NOOK® a commission on the content sales sold through that device. The Company accounts for these transactions as a reduction in the sales price of the NOOK® based on historical trends of content sales and a liability is established for the estimated commission expected to be paid over the life of the product. The Company recognizes revenue of the content at the point of sale of the content. The Company records revenue from sales of digital content, sales of third-party extended warranties, service contracts and other products, for which the Company is not obligated to perform, and for which the Company does not meet the criteria for gross revenue recognition under ASC 605-45-45, *Reporting Revenue Gross as a Principal versus Net as an Agent*, on a net basis. All other revenue is recognized on a gross basis.

The Company rents physical textbooks. Revenue from the rental of physical textbooks is deferred and recognized over the rental period commencing at point of sale. The Company offers a buyout option to allow the purchase of a rented book at the end of the semester. The Company records the buyout purchase when the customer exercises and pays the buyout option price. In these instances, the Company would accelerate any remaining deferred rental revenue at the point of sale.

NOOK acquires the rights to distribute digital content from publishers and distributes the content on www.barnesandnoble.com, NOOK® devices and other eBookstore platforms. Certain digital content is distributed under an agency pricing model, in which the publishers set prices for eBooks and NOOK receives a commission on content sold through the eBookstore. The majority of the Company's eBook sales are sold under the agency model.

The Barnes & Noble Member Program offers members greater discounts and other benefits for products and services, as well as exclusive offers and promotions via e-mail or direct mail generally for an annual fee of \$25.00, which is non-refundable after the first 30 days. Revenue is recognized over the twelve-month period based upon historical spending patterns for Barnes & Noble Members.

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In May 2014, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued ASU No. 2014-09, *Revenue from Contracts with Customers* (ASU 2014-09). The standard provides companies with a single model for use in accounting for revenue arising from contracts with customers and supersedes current revenue recognition guidance, including industry-specific revenue guidance. The core principle of the model is to recognize revenue when control of the goods or services transfers to the customer, as opposed to recognizing revenue when the risks and rewards transfer to the customer under the existing revenue guidance. ASU 2014-09 is effective for annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2016. In August 2015, the FASB deferred the effective date to annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2017. Earlier application is permitted only as of annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2016, including interim reporting periods within that reporting period. The guidance permits companies to either apply the requirements retrospectively to all prior periods presented, or apply the requirements in the year of adoption, through a cumulative adjustment. The Company has not yet selected a transition method nor has it determined the impact of adoption on its consolidated financial statements.

7. Research and Development Costs for Software Products

The Company follows the guidance in ASC 985-20, *Cost of Software to Be Sold, Leased or Marketed*, regarding software development costs to be sold, leased, or otherwise marketed. Capitalization of software development costs begins upon the establishment of technological feasibility and is discontinued when the product is available for sale. A certain amount of judgment and estimation is required to assess when technological feasibility is established, as well as the ongoing assessment of the recoverability of capitalized costs. The Company's products reach technological feasibility shortly before the products are released and, therefore, research and development costs are generally expensed as incurred.

8. Internal-use Software and Website Development Costs

Direct costs incurred to develop software for internal use and website development costs are capitalized and amortized over an estimated useful life of three to seven years. The Company capitalized costs, primarily related to labor, consulting, hardware and software, of \$24,158 and \$25,946 during the 39 weeks ended January 30, 2016 and January 31, 2015, respectively. Amortization of previously capitalized amounts was \$7,584 and \$6,928 during the 13 weeks ended January 30, 2016 and January 31, 2015, respectively, and \$22,826 and \$20,902 during the 39 weeks ended January 30, 2016 and January 31, 2015, respectively. Costs related to the design or maintenance of internal-use software and website development are expensed as incurred.

9. Net Earnings (Loss) per Share

In accordance with ASC 260-10-45, *Share-Based Payment Arrangements and Participating Securities and the Two-Class Method*, unvested share-based payment awards that contain rights to receive non-forfeitable dividends are considered participating securities. The Company's unvested restricted shares and unvested restricted stock units granted prior to July 15, 2015 and shares issuable under the Company's deferred compensation plan are considered participating securities. Cash dividends to restricted stock units and performance-based stock units granted on or after July 15, 2015 are not distributed until and except to the extent that the restricted stock units vest, and in the case of performance-based stock units, until and except to the extent that the performance metrics are achieved or are otherwise deemed satisfied. Stock options do not receive cash dividends. As such, these awards are not considered participating securities.

Basic earnings per common share is calculated by dividing the net income, adjusted for preferred dividends and income allocated to participating securities, by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the period. Diluted net income per common share reflects the dilution that would occur if any potentially dilutive instruments were exercised or converted into common shares. The dilutive effect of participating securities is calculated using the more dilutive of the treasury stock method or two-class method. Other potentially dilutive securities include preferred stock, stock options, restricted stock units granted after July 15, 2015, and performance-based stock units and are included in diluted shares to the extent they are dilutive under the treasury stock method for the applicable periods.

During periods of net loss, no effect is given to the participating securities because they do not share in the losses of the Company. The Company's outstanding non-participating securities consisting of dilutive stock options were 68,031, 122,442, 136,130 and 71,671, for the 13 weeks ended January 30, 2016 and January 31, 2015, and the 39 weeks ended January 30, 2016 and January 31, 2015, respectively, and accretion/payments of dividends on preferred shares were also excluded from the calculation of loss per share using the two-class method because the effect would be antidilutive.

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The following is a reconciliation of the Company's basic and diluted income (loss) per share calculation:

| | 13 weeks ended | | 39 weeks ended | |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| | January 30, 2016 | January 31, 2015 | January 30, 2016 | January 31, 2015 |
| Numerator for basic income (loss) per share: | | | | |
| Net income from continuing operations attributable to Barnes & Noble, Inc | \$ 80,262 | 38,977 | \$ 45,308 | 35,891 |
| Inducement fee paid upon conversion of Series J preferred stock | | | (3,657) | |
| Preferred stock dividends | | (3,942) | | (11,825) |
| Preferred stock dividends paid in shares | | | (1,783) | |
| Accretion of dividends on preferred stock | | (5,507) | (4,204) | (7,024) |
| Less allocation of dividends to participating securities | (307) | | (999) | |
| Less allocation of undistributed earnings to participating securities | (1,871) | (1,591) | | (995) |
| Net income from continuing operations available to common shareholders | \$ 78,084 | 27,937 | \$ 34,665 | 16,047 |
| Net income (loss) from discontinued operations attributable to Barnes & Noble, Inc. | | 33,191 | (39,146) | 20,126 |
| Less allocation of undistributed earnings to participating securities | | (1,788) | | (1,175) |
| Net income (loss) from discontinued operations available to common shareholders | | 31,403 | (39,146) | 18,951 |
| Net income (loss) available to common shareholders | \$ 78,084 | 59,340 | \$ (4,481) | 34,998 |
| Numerator for diluted income (loss) per share: | | | | |
| Net income from continuing operations available to common shareholders | \$ 78,084 | 27,937 | \$ 34,665 | 16,047 |
| Preferred stock dividends ^(a) | | | | |
| Accretion of dividends on preferred stock ^(a) | | | | |
| Allocation of undistributed earnings to participating securities | 1,871 | 1,591 | | 995 |
| Less diluted allocation of undistributed earnings to participating securities | (1,869) | (1,588) | | (994) |
| Net income from continuing operations available to common shareholders | \$ 78,086 | 27,940 | \$ 34,665 | 16,048 |
| Net income (loss) from discontinued operations available to common shareholders. | | 31,403 | (39,146) | 18,951 |
| | | 1,788 | | 1,175 |

| | | | | |
|---|-----------|---------|------------|---------|
| Allocation of undistributed earnings to participating securities | | | | |
| Less diluted allocation of undistributed earnings to participating securities | | (1,785) | | (1,174) |
| Net income (loss) from discontinued operations available to common shareholders | | 31,406 | (39,146) | 18,952 |
| Net income (loss) available to common shareholders | \$ 78,086 | 59,346 | \$ (4,481) | 35,000 |

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| | 13 weeks ended | | 39 weeks ended | |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| | January 30, 2016 | January 31, 2015 | January 30, 2016 | January 31, 2015 |
| Denominator for basic income (loss) per share: | | | | |
| Basic weighted average common shares | 74,856 | 61,589 | 71,987 | 60,056 |
| Denominator for diluted income (loss) per share: | | | | |
| Basic weighted average common shares | 74,856 | 61,589 | 71,987 | 60,056 |
| Preferred shares ^(a) | | | | |
| Average dilutive options | 68 | 122 | 136 | 72 |
| Average dilutive non-participating securities | | | 1 | |
| Diluted weighted average common shares | 74,924 | 61,711 | 72,124 | 60,128 |
| Basic income (loss) per common share: | | | | |
| Income from continuing operations | \$ 1.04 | 0.45 | \$ 0.48 | 0.27 |
| Income (loss) from discontinued operations | | 0.51 | (0.54) | 0.32 |
| Basic income (loss) per common share | \$ 1.04 | 0.96 | \$ (0.06) | 0.58 |
| Diluted income (loss) per common share: | | | | |
| Income from continuing operations | \$ 1.04 | 0.45 | \$ 0.48 | 0.27 |
| Income (loss) from discontinued operations | | 0.51 | (0.54) | 0.32 |
| Diluted income (loss) per common share | \$ 1.04 | 0.96 | \$ (0.06) | 0.58 |

^(a) Although the Company was in a net income position during the 13 weeks ended January 31, 2015 and the 39 weeks ended January 30, 2016 and January 31, 2015, the dilutive effect of the Company's convertible preferred shares were excluded from the calculation of income per share using the two-class method because the effect would be antidilutive.

10. Segment Reporting

The Company's two operating segments are: B&N Retail and NOOK.

B&N Retail

This segment includes 640 bookstores as of January 30, 2016, primarily under the Barnes & Noble Booksellers trade name. These Barnes & Noble stores generally offer a dedicated NOOK[®] area, a comprehensive trade book title base, a café, and departments dedicated to Juvenile, Toys & Games, DVDs, Music, Gift, Magazine and Bargain products. The stores also offer a calendar of ongoing events, including author appearances and children's activities. The B&N Retail segment also includes the Company's eCommerce website, www.barnesandnoble.com, and its publishing operation, Sterling Publishing.

NOOK

This segment includes the Company's digital business, including the development and support of the Company's NOOK® product offerings. The digital business includes digital content such as eBooks, digital newsstand, apps and sales of NOOK® devices and accessories to B&N Retail.

Summarized financial information concerning the Company's reportable segments is presented below:

| <i>Sales by Segment</i> | 13 weeks ended | | 39 weeks ended | |
|-------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| | January 30, 2016 | January 31, 2015 | January 30, 2016 | January 31, 2015 |
| B&N Retail | \$ 1,378,887 | 1,395,917 | \$ 3,178,590 | 3,238,883 |
| NOOK | 51,737 | 77,509 | 149,568 | 211,402 |
| Elimination | (16,677) | (33,294) | (40,998) | (63,256) |
| Total | \$ 1,413,947 | 1,440,132 | \$ 3,287,160 | 3,387,029 |

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| <i>Sales by Product Line</i> | 13 weeks ended | | 39 weeks ended | |
|------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| | January 30, 2016 | January 31, 2015 | January 30, 2016 | January 31, 2015 |
| Media ^(a) | 67% | 67% | 70% | 70% |
| Digital ^(b) | 4% | 6% | 5% | 7% |
| Other ^(c) | 29% | 27% | 25% | 23% |
| Total | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% |

| <i>Depreciation and Amortization</i> | 13 weeks ended | | 39 weeks ended | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| | January 30, 2016 | January 31, 2015 | January 30, 2016 | January 31, 2015 |
| B&N Retail | \$ 26,853 | 25,581 | \$ 78,079 | 79,953 |
| NOOK | 8,294 | 9,690 | 25,785 | 29,997 |
| Total | \$ 35,147 | 35,271 | \$ 103,864 | 109,950 |

| <i>Operating Profit (Loss)</i> | 13 weeks ended | | 39 weeks ended | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| | January 30, 2016 | January 31, 2015 | January 30, 2016 | January 31, 2015 |
| B&N Retail | \$ 153,304 | 169,808 | \$ 148,166 | 204,638 |
| NOOK | (19,448) | (38,727) | (75,554) | (99,550) |
| Total | \$ 133,856 | 131,081 | \$ 72,612 | 105,088 |

| <i>Capital Expenditures</i> | 13 weeks ended | | 39 weeks ended | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| | January 30, 2016 | January 31, 2015 | January 30, 2016 | January 31, 2015 |
| B&N Retail | \$ 15,507 | 13,013 | \$ 60,051 | 48,296 |
| NOOK | 3,558 | 4,455 | 9,734 | 17,370 |
| Total | \$ 19,065 | 17,468 | \$ 69,785 | 65,666 |

| <i>Total Assets</i> ^(d) | January 30, | January 31, |
|------------------------------------|--------------|-------------|
| | 2016 | 2015 |
| B&N Retail | \$ 2,122,162 | 2,191,498 |
| NOOK | 84,258 | 148,294 |
| Discontinued Operations | | 1,536,451 |
| Total | \$ 2,206,420 | 3,876,243 |

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- (a) Includes tangible books, music, movies, rentals and newsstand.
- (b) Includes NOOK®, related accessories, eContent and warranties.
- (c) Includes Toys & Games, café products, gifts and miscellaneous other.
- (d) Excludes intercompany balances.

A reconciliation of operating income from reportable segments to income from continuing operations before taxes in the consolidated financial statements is as follows:

| | 13 weeks ended | | 39 weeks ended | |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| | January 30, 2016 | January 31, 2015 | January 30, 2016 | January 31, 2015 |
| Reportable segments operating income | \$ 133,856 | 131,081 | \$ 72,612 | 105,088 |
| Interest expense, net and amortization of deferred financing costs | 1,976 | 3,521 | 7,233 | 14,723 |
| Consolidated income before taxes | \$ 131,880 | 127,560 | \$ 65,379 | 90,365 |

Table of Contents**11. Intangible Assets and Goodwill**

| Amortizable Intangible Assets | As of January 30, 2016 | | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|----------|
| | Useful Life | Gross Carrying Amount | Accumulated Amortization | Total |
| Technology | 5-10 | \$ 10,710 | 9,487 | \$ 1,223 |
| Distribution contracts | 10 | 8,325 | 7,831 | 494 |
| Other | 3-10 | 6,350 | 6,295 | 55 |
| | | \$ 25,385 | 23,613 | \$ 1,772 |

| Unamortizable Intangible Assets | Publishing | | |
|---|------------|-----------|------------|
| | Trade Name | Contracts | Total |
| Balance at May 2, 2015 | \$ 293,400 | 19,734 | \$ 313,134 |
| Impairment ^(a) | | (3,840) | (3,840) |
| Balance at January 30, 2016 | \$ 293,400 | 15,894 | \$ 309,294 |
| Total amortizable and unamortizable intangible assets | | | \$ 311,066 |

^(a) The Company tests unamortizable intangible assets, at least annually or earlier if there are impairment indicators, by comparing the fair value and the carrying value of such assets. During this quarter, the Company impaired one of its publishing contracts due to a significant drop in current year business with that publisher, driven by lower title offerings, product quality and the loss of a distribution partner. As a result, the Company recorded an impairment charge of \$3,840 in selling and administrative expenses during the 13 weeks ended January 30, 2016. All amortizable intangible assets are being amortized over their useful life on a straight-line basis, with the exception of certain other acquired intangible assets, which are amortized on an accelerated basis.

Aggregate Amortization Expense:

| | |
|---|----------|
| For the 39 weeks ended January 30, 2016 | \$ 825 |
| For the 39 weeks ended January 31, 2015 | \$ 3,838 |

Estimated Amortization Expense:

| (12 months ending on or about April 30) | |
|---|----------|
| 2016 | \$ 1,010 |
| 2017 | \$ 721 |
| 2018 | \$ 539 |
| 2019 | \$ 323 |

The carrying amount of goodwill as of January 30, 2016 is \$215,197.

12. Gift Cards

The Company sells gift cards, which can be used in its stores, on www.barnesandnoble.com, on NOOK® devices and at B&N Education stores. The Company does not charge administrative or dormancy fees on gift cards and gift cards have no expiration dates. Upon the purchase of a gift card, a liability is established for its cash value. Revenue associated with gift cards is deferred until redemption of the gift card. Gift cards redeemed at B&N Education are funded by the gift card liability at the Company. Over time, a portion of the gift cards issued is typically not redeemed. The Company estimates the portion of the gift card liability for which the likelihood of redemption is remote based upon the Company's historical redemption patterns. The Company records this amount in income on a straight-line basis over a 12-month period beginning in the 13th month after the month the gift card was originally sold. The Company does not believe there is a reasonable likelihood that there will be a material change in the estimates or assumptions used to recognize revenue associated with gift cards. Additional breakage may be required if gift card redemptions continue to run lower than historical patterns.

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The Company recognized gift card breakage of \$13,522 and \$10,126 during the 13 weeks ended January 30, 2016 and January 31, 2015, respectively, and \$24,110 and \$21,259 during the 39 weeks ended January 30, 2016 and January 31, 2015, respectively. The Company had gift card liabilities of \$384,915 and \$390,102 as of January 30, 2016 and January 31, 2015, respectively.

13. Other Long-Term Liabilities

Other long-term liabilities consist primarily of deferred rent, tax liabilities and reserves, and long-term insurance liabilities. The Company provides for minimum rent expense over the lease terms (including the build-out period) on a straight-line basis. The excess of such rent expense over actual lease payments (net of tenant allowances) is classified as deferred rent. Other long-term liabilities also include store closing expenses and long-term deferred revenues. The Company had the following long-term liabilities at January 30, 2016, January 31, 2015 and May 2, 2015:

| | January 30, 2016 | January 31, 2015 | May 2, 2015 |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Deferred rent | \$ 74,835 | 95,020 | 90,871 |
| Tax liabilities and reserves | 32,601 | 14,386 | 43,090 |
| Insurance liabilities | 15,689 | 15,836 | 15,277 |
| Pension liability (see Note 18) | | 16,652 | |
| Other | 15,543 | 13,440 | 12,971 |
| Total other long-term liabilities | \$ 138,668 | 155,334 | 162,209 |

14. Income Taxes

The Company recorded an income tax provision of \$51,618 on a pre-tax income of \$131,880 during the 13 weeks ended January 30, 2016, which represented an effective income tax rate of 39.1%. The Company recorded an income tax provision of \$88,583 on pre-tax income of \$127,560 during the 13 weeks ended January 31, 2015, which represented an effective income tax rate of 69.4%.

The Company recorded an income tax provision of \$20,071 on a pre-tax income of \$65,379 during the 39 weeks ended January 30, 2016, which represented an effective income tax rate of 30.7%. The Company recorded an income tax provision of \$54,474 on pre-tax income of \$90,365 during the 39 weeks ended January 31, 2015, which represented an effective income tax rate of 60.3%.

The income tax provisions for the 13 and 39 weeks ended January 30, 2016 and January 31, 2015, respectively, include the impact of permanent items such as meals and entertainment, non-deductible executive compensation, changes in uncertain tax positions, finalization of the federal income tax audit covering the 2008 through 2012 tax years, the closure of many state taxing jurisdiction statutes, the impact of new legislation enacted by Congress permanently re-instating the research and development credit and the impact of filing the income tax returns. In the current year the Company no longer maintains a valuation allowance against its tax assets, except with respect to certain separate state income tax jurisdictions. Additionally, in the prior year the Company recorded the tax implications of the Microsoft agreement in the 13 and 39 weeks ended January 31, 2015, which do not impact the 13 and 39 weeks ended January 30, 2016 as a result of the termination of the Microsoft agreement in December 2014.

15. Fair Values of Financial Instruments

In accordance with ASC 820, *Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures*, the fair value of an asset is considered to be the price at which the asset could be sold in an orderly transaction between unrelated, knowledgeable and willing parties. A liability's fair value is defined as the amount that would be paid to transfer the liability to a new obligor, not the amount that would be paid to settle the liability with the creditor. Assets and liabilities recorded at fair value are measured using a three-tier fair value hierarchy, which prioritizes the inputs used in measuring fair value. These tiers include:

Level 1 Observable inputs that reflect quoted prices in active markets

Level 2 Inputs other than quoted prices in active markets that are either directly or indirectly observable

Level 3 Unobservable inputs in which little or no market data exists, therefore requiring the Company to develop its own assumptions

The Company's financial instruments include cash, receivables, gift cards, accrued liabilities and accounts payable. The fair values of cash, receivables, accrued liabilities and accounts payable approximate carrying values because of the short-term nature of these instruments. The Company believes that its credit facility approximates fair value since interest rates are adjusted to reflect current rates.

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16. Credit Facility

Prior to August 3, 2015, the Company was party to an amended and restated credit facility with Bank of America, N.A., as administrative agent, collateral agent and swing line lender, and other lenders, dated as of April 29, 2011 (as amended and modified to date, the Credit Facility), consisting of up to \$1,000,000 in aggregate commitments under a five-year asset-backed revolving credit facility expiring on April 29, 2016.

On August 3, 2015, the Company and certain of its subsidiaries entered into a credit agreement (New Credit Agreement) with Bank of America, N.A., as administrative agent, collateral agent and swing line lender, and the other lenders from time to time party thereto, under which the lenders committed to provide a five-year asset-backed revolving credit facility in an aggregate committed principal amount of \$700,000 (New Credit Facility). Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated, J.P. Morgan Securities LLC, Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. and SunTrust Robinson Humphrey, Inc. are the joint lead arrangers for the New Credit Facility. The New \$700,000 Credit Facility replaced the \$1,000,000 Credit Facility. Proceeds from the New Credit Facility are expected to be used for general corporate purposes, including seasonal working capital needs.

The Company and certain of its subsidiaries will be permitted to borrow under the New Credit Facility. The New Credit Facility is secured by substantially all of the inventory, accounts receivable and related assets of the borrowers under the New Credit Facility (collectively, the Loan Parties), but excluding the equity interests in the Company and its subsidiaries, intellectual property, equipment and certain other property. Borrowings under the Credit Facility are limited to a specified percentage of eligible collateral. The Company has the option to request an increase in commitments under the New Credit Facility of up to \$250,000, subject to certain restrictions.

Interest under the New Credit Facility accrues, at the election of the Company, at a LIBOR or alternate base rate, plus, in each case, an applicable interest rate margin, which is determined by reference to the level of excess availability under the New Credit Facility. Loans will initially bear interest at LIBOR plus 1.750% per annum, in the case of LIBOR borrowings, or at the alternate base rate plus 0.750% per annum, in the alternative, and thereafter the interest rate will fluctuate between LIBOR plus 2.000% per annum and LIBOR plus 1.500% per annum (or between the alternate base rate plus 1.000% per annum and the alternate base rate plus 0.500% per annum), based upon the average daily availability for the immediately preceding fiscal quarter.

The New Credit Agreement contains customary negative covenants, which limit the Company's ability to incur additional indebtedness, create liens, make investments, make restricted payments or specified payments and merge or acquire assets, among other things. In addition, if excess availability under the New Credit Facility were to fall below certain specified levels, certain additional covenants (including fixed charge coverage ratio requirements) would be triggered, and the lenders will assume dominion and control over the Loan Parties' cash.

The New Credit Agreement contains customary events of default, including payment defaults, material breaches of representations and warranties, covenant defaults, default on other material indebtedness, customary ERISA events of default, bankruptcy and insolvency, material judgments, invalidity of liens on collateral, change of control or cessation of business. The New Credit Agreement also contains customary affirmative covenants and representations and warranties.

The Company wrote off \$460 of deferred financing fees related to the Credit Facility during the 39 weeks ended January 30, 2016 and the remaining unamortized deferred financing fees of \$3,542 were deferred and will be amortized over the five-year term of the New Credit Facility. The Company also incurred \$5,701 of fees to secure the New Credit Facility, which will be amortized over the five-year term accordingly.

The Company had no outstanding debt under the New Credit Facility as of January 30, 2016 and the previous Credit Facility as of January 31, 2015. The Company had \$47,895 of outstanding letters of credit under its New Credit Facility as of January 30, 2016 compared with \$67,264 under the previous Credit Facility as of January 31, 2015.

Table of Contents**17. Stock-Based Compensation**

For the 13 and 39 weeks ended January 30, 2016 and January 31, 2015, the Company recognized stock-based compensation expense in selling and administrative expenses as follows:

| | 13 weeks ended | | 39 weeks ended | |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| | January 30, 2016 | January 31, 2015 | January 30, 2016 | January 31, 2015 |
| Restricted Stock Expense | \$ 210 | 248 | \$ 600 | 799 |
| Restricted Stock Units Expense | 2,573 | 2,599 | 9,487 | 11,823 |
| Performance-Based Stock Unit Expense | 189 | | 439 | |
| Stock Option Expense | 27 | 128 | 417 | 1,621 |
| Stock-Based Compensation Expense | \$ 2,999 | 2,975 | \$ 10,943 | 14,243 |

18. Pension and Other Postretirement Benefit Plans

As of December 31, 1999, substantially all employees of the Company were covered under a noncontributory defined benefit pension plan (the Pension Plan). As of January 1, 2000, the Pension Plan was amended so that employees no longer earn benefits for subsequent service. Effective December 31, 2004, the Barnes & Noble.com Employees Retirement Plan (the B&N.com Retirement Plan) was merged with the Pension Plan. Substantially all employees of Barnes & Noble.com were covered under the B&N.com Retirement Plan. As of July 1, 2000, the B&N.com Retirement Plan was amended so that employees no longer earn benefits for subsequent service. Subsequent service continued to be the basis for vesting of benefits not yet vested at December 31, 1999 and June 30, 2000 for the Pension Plan and the B&N.com Retirement Plan, respectively.

On June 18, 2014, the Company's Board of Directors approved a resolution to terminate the Pension Plan. The Pension Plan termination was effective November 1, 2014 and the accrued benefit for active participants was vested as of such date. As a result of the Pension Plan termination, pension liability and other comprehensive loss increased by \$15,747, before tax, during the 26 weeks ended November 1, 2014. The pension liability will be settled in either a lump sum payment or a purchased annuity. A special lump sum opportunity was offered to terminated vested participants in the Pension Plan during the 13 weeks ended November 1, 2014, which triggered settlement accounting in the period ending January 31, 2015. The settlement represents 735 participants who elected to receive a lump sum of their benefit, totaling \$15,190. The distributions primarily took place in December 2014 and resulted in a settlement charge of \$7,317, which was reclassified from other comprehensive income to selling and administrative expenses during fiscal 2015. In addition, the Pension Plan received a favorable determination letter, dated October 15, 2015, from the IRS. This determination letter rules that the termination of the Pension Plan, as amended, does not affect its tax-qualified status.

The net impact of the Pension Plan termination, special lump sum opportunity, settlement accounting and remeasurement and regular plan experience, was an increase in pension liability of \$3,062 and a decrease in other comprehensive income of \$6,503, before tax, in fiscal 2015. There was a final Pension Plan termination lump sum opportunity offered to the remaining 2,300 active and terminated vested participants during the 13 weeks ended January 30, 2016. Payment of these lump sums will be made on the Pension Plan termination distribution date, which is expected to occur in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2016. The Company expects a pension charge of approximately \$21,000 to be recorded in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2016, reflecting the settlement of all Pension Plan benefits on the

termination distribution date. The Company expects the final cash funding at termination to be approximately \$8,500. The actuarial assumptions used to calculate pension costs are typically reviewed annually. In light of the resolution to terminate the Pension Plan, the assumptions used to calculate the pension costs were reviewed quarterly.

Pension expense was \$1,247 and \$7,914 for the 13 weeks ended January 30, 2016 and January 31, 2015, respectively, and \$3,930 and \$9,299 for the 39 weeks ended January 30, 2016 and January 31, 2015, respectively. Pension liabilities of \$14,216 as of May 2, 2015 were reclassified to short-term as the plan termination is expected to be settled within twelve months. Pension liabilities were \$13,047 at January 30, 2016 and recorded within accrued liabilities.

The Company maintains a defined contribution plan (the Savings Plan) for the benefit of substantially all employees. Total Company contributions charged to employee benefit expenses for the Savings Plan were \$3,058 and \$2,734 for the 13 weeks ended January 30, 2016 and January 31, 2015, respectively, and \$9,231 and \$9,184 for the 39 weeks ended January 30, 2016 and January 31, 2015, respectively. In addition, the Company provides certain health care and life insurance benefits (the Postretirement Plan) to certain retired employees, limited to those receiving benefits or retired as of April 1, 1993. Total Company contributions charged to employee benefit expenses for the Postretirement Plan were \$38 for the 13 weeks ended January 30, 2016 and January 31, 2015, and \$113 for the 39 weeks ended January 30, 2016 and January 31, 2015.

Table of Contents**19. Microsoft Investment**

On April 27, 2012, Barnes & Noble entered into an investment agreement, pursuant to which Barnes & Noble transferred to the LLC its digital device, digital content and college bookstore businesses, and Morrison Investment Holdings, Inc. (Morrison) purchased from the LLC 300,000 convertible preferred membership interests in the LLC (Series A Preferred) for an aggregate purchase price of \$300,000. Concurrently with its entry into this agreement, Barnes & Noble also entered into a commercial agreement with Microsoft, pursuant to which, among other things, the LLC would develop and distribute a Windows 8 application for eReading and digital content purchases, and an intellectual property license and settlement agreement with Microsoft and Microsoft Licensing GP. The parties closed Morrison's investment in the LLC and the commercial agreement became effective on October 4, 2012.

On December 3, 2014, Morrison, Microsoft, Barnes & Noble and Barnes & Noble Education entered into agreements, pursuant to which Morrison's interest in the LLC was purchased by Barnes & Noble Education and the Microsoft commercial agreement was terminated effective as of such date. Pursuant to the Purchase Agreement (the Purchase Agreement) among Barnes & Noble, Barnes & Noble Education, Morrison and Microsoft, Barnes & Noble Education purchased from Morrison, and Morrison sold, all of its \$300,000 convertible Series A preferred limited liability company interest in the LLC in exchange for an aggregate purchase price of \$124,850 consisting of (i) \$62,425 in cash and (ii) 2,737,290 shares of common stock, par value \$0.001 per share, of Barnes & Noble. The Purchase Agreement closed on December 4, 2014. The Company accounted for this transaction in accordance with ASC 810-10, *Non-Controlling Interest* (ASC 810-10) and it accordingly was reflected as an equity transaction. In connection with the closing, the parties entered into a Digital Business Contingent Payment Agreement, pursuant to which Microsoft is entitled to receive 22.7% of the proceeds from, among other events or transactions, (1) any future dividends or other distributions received from Barnes & Noble's NOOK digital business at any time until the date that is three years from the closing, subject to a one-year extension under certain circumstances, and (2) the sale of Barnes & Noble's NOOK digital business at any time until the date that is three years from the closing, subject to a one-year extension under certain circumstances.

20. Pearson

On December 21, 2012, the LLC entered into an agreement with a subsidiary of Pearson plc (Pearson) to make a strategic investment in the LLC. That transaction closed on January 22, 2013, and Pearson invested approximately \$89,500 of cash in the LLC in exchange for preferred membership interests representing a 5% equity stake in the LLC. Following the closing of the transaction, Barnes & Noble owned approximately 78.2% of the LLC and Microsoft owned approximately 16.8%. The preferred membership interests had a liquidation preference equal to the original investment. In addition, the LLC granted warrants to Pearson to purchase up to an additional 5% of the LLC under certain conditions. Upon the completion of the acquisition of Pearson's interest in the LLC, as stated below, the temporary equity was converted to permanent equity.

On December 22, 2014, Barnes & Noble entered into a Purchase Agreement (the Pearson Purchase Agreement) among Barnes & Noble, Barnes & Noble Education, NOOK Media Member Two LLC, a Delaware limited liability company (NOOK Member Two), Pearson Education, Inc. (Pearson Education) and Pearson Inc., pursuant to which Barnes & Noble Education and NOOK Member Two purchased from Pearson Education all of its convertible Series B preferred limited liability company interest in the LLC and all of its warrants to purchase additional Series B preferred limited liability company interests, in exchange for an aggregate purchase price equal to (i) \$13,750 in cash and (ii) 602,927 shares of common stock, par value \$0.001 per share, of Barnes & Noble. The transactions under the Pearson Purchase Agreement closed on December 22, 2014. The Company accounted for this transaction in accordance with ASC 810-10 and it accordingly was reflected as an equity transaction. As a condition to closing, the parties entered into an amended and restated Digital Business Contingent Payment Agreement, pursuant to which a

Digital Business Contingent Payment Agreement dated as of December 3, 2014, by and between Barnes & Noble, the LLC and Pearson, was amended and restated to include provisions consistent with the Digital Business Contingent Payment Agreement entered into with Morrison on December 3, 2014.

21. Samsung Commercial Agreement

On June 4, 2014, NOOK Digital, LLC (NOOK Digital) (formerly NOOK Media Sub and barnesandnoble.com llc), a wholly owned subsidiary of B&N Education as of such date and a subsidiary of Barnes & Noble, entered into a commercial agreement (Agreement) with Samsung Electronics America, Inc. (Samsung) relating to tablets.

Pursuant to the Agreement, NOOK Digital, after good faith consultations with Samsung and subject to Samsung's agreement, selected Samsung tablet devices under development to be customized and co-branded by NOOK Digital. Such devices are produced by Samsung. The co-branded NOOK® tablet devices are sold by NOOK Digital through Barnes & Noble retail stores, www.barnesandnoble.com, www.nook.com and other Barnes & Noble and NOOK Media websites. NOOK Digital and Samsung agreed to develop co-branded Samsung Galaxy Tab® 4 NOOK® tablets as the initial co-branded devices pursuant to the Agreement.

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Under the Agreement, NOOK Digital committed to purchase a minimum of 1,000,000 NOOK®-Samsung co-branded devices from Samsung within 12 months after the launch of the initial co-branded device, which launch occurred on August 20, 2014. The 12-month period was automatically extended by three months due to the quantity of sales of such co-branded devices through December 31, 2014, and the period was further extended until June 30, 2016 by an amendment executed by the parties on March 7, 2015. The parties are currently in discussions with respect to modifying the agreement, including but not limited to modifying the minimum device commitment, although there can be no assurance that those discussions will lead to a modified agreement.

NOOK Digital and Samsung have agreed to coordinate customer service for the co-branded NOOK® devices and have both agreed to a license of intellectual property to promote and market the devices. Additionally, Samsung has agreed to fund a marketing fund for the co-branded NOOK® devices at the initial launch and for the duration of the Agreement.

The Agreement has a two-year term, with certain termination rights, including termination (i) by NOOK Digital for a Samsung material default; (ii) by Samsung for a NOOK Digital material default; (iii) by NOOK Digital if Samsung fails to meet its shipping and delivery obligations in any material respect on a timely basis; and (iv) by either party upon insolvency or bankruptcy of the other party.

22. Palo Alto Lease

On June 5, 2014, the Company entered into an Assignment of Lease for its 208,000 square foot Palo Alto, California campus. Employees were relocated to new state-of-the-art facilities totaling 88,000 square feet. NOOK employees were moved to a new facility in Santa Clara, California, while Barnes & Noble College's digital education employees were relocated to a facility in Mountain View, California. The relocations occurred during the first quarter of fiscal 2015. In the fourth quarter of fiscal 2014, the Company recorded an asset impairment charge of \$28,440 within selling and administrative expenses related to this relocation since the assignment of lease was being actively negotiated in fiscal 2014, and was completed prior to the issuance of the financial statements, the impaired assets that resulted from the completion of the assignment were reflected in the financial statements for fiscal 2014 in accordance with ASC 855-10, *Subsequent Events*. Of the \$28,440 asset impairment charge that was recorded in fiscal 2014, \$23,928 related to leasehold improvements, \$2,750 related to furniture, fixtures, machinery and equipment and \$1,762 related to assets under construction. The Company determined the impairment charge by comparing the estimated fair value to its carrying amount. The fair value was developed primarily using the cost approach in evaluating the replacement cost of the asset (Level 2 fair value assumptions) and then adjusting any value due to economic obsolescence, functional obsolescence or physical deterioration. The amount of the fair value measurement of the assets related to the relocation as of May 3, 2014 was \$10,624. The lease termination was accounted for in the first quarter of fiscal 2015, which was the period in which the lease was assigned.

23. Series J Preferred Stock

On August 18, 2011, the Company entered into an investment agreement between the Company and Liberty GIC, Inc. (Liberty), pursuant to which the Company issued and sold to Liberty, and Liberty purchased, 204,000 shares of the Company's Series J Preferred Stock, par value \$0.001 per share (Preferred Stock), for an aggregate purchase price of \$204,000 in a private placement exempt from the registration requirements of the 1933 Act. The shares of Preferred Stock were convertible, at the option of the holders, into shares of Common Stock representing 16.6% of the Common Stock outstanding as of August 29, 2011 (after giving pro forma effect to the issuance of the Preferred Stock) based on the initial conversion rate. The initial conversion rate reflected an initial conversion price of \$17.00 and was subject to

adjustment in certain circumstances. The initial dividend rate for the Preferred Stock was equal to 7.75% per annum of the initial liquidation preference of the Preferred Stock paid quarterly and subject to adjustment in certain circumstances.

On April 8, 2014, Liberty sold the majority of its shares to qualified institutional buyers in reliance on Rule 144A under the Securities Act and had retained an approximate 10 percent stake of its initial investment. As a result, Liberty no longer had the right to elect two preferred stock directors to the Company's Board. Additionally, the consent rights and pre-emptive rights, to which Liberty was previously entitled ceased to apply.

On June 5, 2015, the Company entered into conversion agreements with five beneficial owners (Series J Holders) of its Preferred Stock, pursuant to which each of the Series J Holders had agreed to convert (Conversion) shares of Preferred Stock it beneficially owned into shares of the Company's common stock, par value \$0.001 per share (Company Common Stock), and additionally received a cash payment from the Company in connection with the Conversion.

On July 9, 2015, the Company completed the Conversion. Pursuant to the terms of the Conversion Agreements, the Series J Holders converted an aggregate of 103,995 shares of Preferred Stock into 6,117,342 shares of Company Common Stock, and made an aggregate cash payment to the Series J Holders of \$3,657 plus cash in lieu of fractional shares in connection with the Conversion.

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The number of shares of Company Common Stock issued was determined based on a conversion ratio of 58.8235 shares of Company Common Stock per share of Preferred Stock converted, which was the conversion rate in the Certificate of the Designations with respect to the Preferred Stock dated as of August 18, 2011.

On July 10, 2015, the Company gave notice of its exercise of the right to force conversion of all outstanding shares of its Senior Convertible Redeemable Series J Preferred Stock into Company Common Stock pursuant to Section 9 of the Certificate of Designations, Preferences and Relative Participating, Optional and Other Special Rights and Qualifications, Limitations and Restrictions of Series J Preferred Stock, dated as of August 18, 2011 (the Forced Conversion). The effective date of the Forced Conversion was July 24, 2015. On the date of the Forced Conversion, each share of Series J Preferred Stock was automatically converted into 59.8727 shares of Company Common Stock, which included shares of Company Common Stock reflecting accrued and unpaid dividends on Series J Preferred Stock. Each holder of Series J Preferred Stock received whole shares of Company Common Stock and a cash amount in lieu of fractional shares of Company Common Stock.

As a result of the transactions described above, all shares of Series J Preferred were retired by the Company and are no longer outstanding.

24. Shareholders Equity

On October 20, 2015, the Company's Board of Directors authorized a new stock repurchase program of up to \$50,000 of its common shares. Stock repurchases under this program may be made through open market and privately negotiated transactions from time to time and in such amounts as management deems appropriate. The repurchase program has no expiration date and may be suspended or discontinued at any time. The Company's repurchase plan intends to comply with the requirements of Rule 10b5-1 and Rule 10b-18 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. During the 13 weeks ended January 30, 2016, the Company repurchased 1,798,962 shares at a cost of \$16,489 under this plan. The maximum dollar value of common stock that may yet be purchased under this program is approximately \$33,511 as of January 30, 2016. As of January 30, 2016, the Company has repurchased 36,797,336 shares at a cost of approximately \$1,082,156 since the inception of the Company's stock repurchase programs. The repurchased shares are held in treasury.

25. Legal Proceedings

The Company is involved in a variety of claims, suits, investigations and proceedings that arise from time to time in the ordinary course of its business, including actions with respect to contracts, intellectual property, taxation, employment, benefits, securities, personal injuries and other matters. The results of these proceedings in the ordinary course of business are not expected to have a material adverse effect on the Company's consolidated financial position or results of operations.

The Company records a liability when it believes that it is both probable that a liability will be incurred, and the amount of loss can be reasonably estimated. The Company evaluates, at least quarterly, developments in its legal matters that could affect the amount of liability that has been previously accrued and makes adjustments as appropriate. Significant judgment is required to determine both probability and the estimated amount of a loss or potential loss. The Company may be unable to reasonably estimate the reasonably possible loss or range of loss for a particular legal contingency for various reasons, including, among others: (i) if the damages sought are indeterminate; (ii) if proceedings are in the early stages; (iii) if there is uncertainty as to the outcome of pending proceedings (including motions and appeals); (iv) if there is uncertainty as to the likelihood of settlement and the outcome of any

negotiations with respect thereto; (v) if there are significant factual issues to be determined or resolved; (vi) if the proceedings involve a large number of parties; (vii) if relevant law is unsettled or novel or untested legal theories are presented; or (viii) if the proceedings are taking place in jurisdictions where the laws are complex or unclear. In such instances, there is considerable uncertainty regarding the ultimate resolution of such matters, including a possible eventual loss, if any.

Legal matters are inherently unpredictable and subject to significant uncertainties, some of which are beyond the Company's control. As such, there can be no assurance that the final outcome of these matters will not materially and adversely affect the Company's business, financial condition, results of operations, or cash flows.

Except as otherwise described below with respect to the *Adrea LLC* (Adrea) matter, the Company has determined that a loss is reasonably possible with respect to the matters described below. Based on its current knowledge the Company has determined that the amount of loss or range of loss, that is reasonably possible (or in the case of Adrea, probable), including any reasonably possible (or, in the case of Adrea, probable) losses in excess of amounts already accrued, is not estimable.

The following is a discussion of the material legal matters involving the Company.

Table of Contents***PIN Pad Litigation***

As previously disclosed, the Company discovered that PIN pads in certain of its stores had been tampered with to allow criminal access to card data and PIN numbers on credit and debit cards swiped through the terminals. Following public disclosure of this matter on October 24, 2012, the Company was served with four putative class action complaints (three in federal district court in the Northern District of Illinois and one in the Northern District of California), each of which alleged on behalf of national and other classes of customers who swiped credit and debit cards in Barnes & Noble Retail stores common law claims such as negligence, breach of contract and invasion of privacy, as well as statutory claims such as violations of the Fair Credit Reporting Act, state data breach notification statutes, and state unfair and deceptive practices statutes. The actions sought various forms of relief including damages, injunctive or equitable relief, multiple or punitive damages, attorneys' fees, costs, and interest. All four cases were transferred and/or assigned to a single judge in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, and a single consolidated amended complaint was filed. The Company filed a motion to dismiss the consolidated amended complaint in its entirety, and in September 2013, the Court granted the motion to dismiss without prejudice. The Plaintiffs then filed an amended complaint, and the Company filed a second motion to dismiss. That motion is pending.

Lina v. Barnes & Noble, Inc., and Barnes & Noble Booksellers, Inc. et al.

On August 5, 2011, a purported class action complaint was filed against Barnes & Noble, Inc. and Barnes & Noble Booksellers, Inc. in the Superior Court for the State of California making the following allegations with respect to salaried Store Managers at Barnes & Noble stores located in California from August 5, 2007 to present: (1) failure to pay wages and overtime; (2) failure to pay for missed meals and/or rest breaks; (3) waiting time penalties; (4) failure to pay minimum wage; (5) failure to reimburse for business expenses; and (6) failure to provide itemized wage statements. The claims are generally derivative of the allegation that these salaried managers were improperly classified as exempt from California's wage and hour laws. The complaint contains no allegations concerning the number of any such alleged violations or the amount of recovery sought on behalf of the purported class. The Company was served with the complaint on August 11, 2011. On July 1, 2014 the court denied plaintiff's motion for class certification. The court ruled that plaintiff failed to satisfy his burden to demonstrate common issues predominated over individual issues, that plaintiff was a sufficient class representative, or that a class action was a superior method to adjudicate plaintiff's claims. Plaintiff filed a notice of appeal on August 29, 2014. On November 18, 2014, the trial court stayed all proceedings pending appeal. The parties have subsequently executed a settlement agreement memorializing a non-material resolution of the matter and will be filing a dismissal of the matter with the court.

Table of Contents***Jones et al v. Barnes & Noble, Inc., and Barnes & Noble Booksellers, Inc. et al.***

On April 23, 2013, Kenneth Jones (Jones) filed a purported Private Attorney General Act action complaint against Barnes & Noble, Inc. and Barnes & Noble Booksellers, Inc. in the Superior Court for the State of California making the following allegations with respect to salaried Store Managers at Barnes & Noble stores located in California: (1) failure to pay wages and overtime; (2) failure to pay for missed meal and/or rest breaks; (3) waiting time penalties; (4) failure to pay minimum wage; (5) failure to provide reimbursement for business expenses; and (6) failure to provide itemized wage statements. The claims are generally derivative of the allegation that Jones and other aggrieved employees were improperly classified as exempt from California's wage and hour laws. The complaint contains no allegations concerning the number of any such alleged violations or the amount of recovery sought on behalf of the plaintiff or the purported aggrieved employees. On May 7, 2013, Judge Michael Johnson (before whom the Lina action is pending) ordered the Jones action related to the Lina action and assigned the Jones action to himself. The Company was served with the complaint on May 16, 2013 and answered on June 10, 2013. On November 18, 2014, the court stayed all proceedings pending appeal in the related Lina action. The parties have subsequently executed a settlement agreement memorializing a non-material resolution of the matter and will be filing a dismissal of the matter with the court.

Cassandra Carag individually and on behalf of others similarly situated v. Barnes & Noble, Inc., Barnes & Noble Booksellers, Inc. and DOES 1 through 100 inclusive

On November 27, 2013, former Associate Store Manager Cassandra Carag (Carag) brought suit in Sacramento County Superior Court, asserting claims on behalf of herself and all other hourly (non-exempt) Barnes & Noble employees in California in the preceding four years for unpaid regular and overtime wages based on alleged off-the-clock work, penalties and pay based on missed meal and rest breaks, and for improper wage statements, payroll records, and untimely pay at separation as a result of the alleged pay errors during employment. Via the complaint, Carag seeks to recover unpaid wages and statutory penalties for all hourly Barnes & Noble employees within California from November 27, 2009 to present. On February 13, 2014, the Company filed an Answer in the state court and concurrently requested removal of the action to federal court. On May 30, 2014, the federal court granted Plaintiff's motion to remand the case to state court and denied Plaintiff's motion to strike portions of the Answer to the Complaint (referring the latter motion to the lower court for future consideration).

Adrea LLC v. Barnes & Noble, Inc., barnesandnoble.com llc and Nook Media LLC

With respect to the *Adrea* matter described herein, the Company has determined, based on its current knowledge, that a loss is probable.

On June 14, 2013, Adrea filed a complaint against Barnes & Noble, Inc., NOOK Digital, LLC (formerly barnesandnoble.com llc) and B&N Education, LLC (formerly NOOK Media LLC) (B&N) in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York alleging that various B&N NOOK products and related online services infringe U.S. Patent Nos. 7,298,851 (851 patent), 7,299,501 (501 patent) and 7,620,703 (703 patent). B&N filed its Answer on August 9, 2013, denying infringement and asserting several affirmative defenses. At the same time, B&N filed counterclaims seeking declaratory judgments of non-infringement and invalidity with respect to each of the patents-in-suit. On July 1, 2014, the Court issued a decision granting partial summary judgment in B&N's favor, and in particular granting B&N's motion to dismiss one of Adrea's infringement claims, and granting B&N's motion to limit any damages award with respect to another of Adrea's infringement claims.

Beginning October 7, 2014, through and including October 22, 2014, the case was tried to a jury in the Southern District of New York. The jury returned its verdict on October 27, 2014. The jury found no infringement with respect

to the 851 patent, and infringement with respect to the 501 and 703 patents. It awarded damages in the amount of \$1,330. The jury further found no willful infringement with respect to any patent.

On July 24, 2015, the Court granted B&N's post trial application to invalidate one of the two patents (the 501 Patent) the jury found to have been infringed. On September 28, 2015, the Court heard post-trial motions on the jury's infringement and validity determinations, and on February 24, 2016, it issued a decision upholding the jury's determination of infringement and validity with respect to the 703 patent. Accordingly, the Court has now ordered a new trial on damages with respect to 703 patent, since the original damages award was a total award for both patents. The date of such trial, and the scope of any damage claims the Court may permit the jury to consider with respect to the 703 patent, are to be determined by the Court in due course.

26. Recent Accounting Pronouncements

In November 2015, the FASB issued ASU No. 2015-17, *Income Taxes, Balance Sheet Classification of Deferred Taxes* (ASU 2015-17). This standard requires all deferred tax assets and liabilities to be classified as non-current on the balance sheet instead of separating deferred taxes into current and non-current amounts. In addition, valuation allowance allocations between current and non-current deferred tax assets are no longer required because those allowances also will be classified as non-current. ASU 2015-17 is effective for public companies for annual periods beginning after December 15, 2016, and interim periods within those annual periods, and early adoption is permitted. Entities are permitted to apply the amendments either prospectively or retrospectively. The Company is currently evaluating the potential impact of this standard on its consolidated financial statements.

In July 2015, the FASB issued an ASU No. 2015-11, *Simplifying the Measurement of Inventory* (ASU 2015-11), modifying the accounting for inventory. Under ASU 2015-11, the measurement principle for inventory will change from lower of cost or market value to lower of cost and net realizable value. ASU 2015-11 defines net realizable value as the estimated selling price in the ordinary course of business, less reasonably predictable costs of completion, disposal, and transportation. ASU 2015-11 is applicable to inventory that is accounted for under the first-in, first-out method and is effective for reporting periods after December 15, 2016, with early adoption permitted. The Company has not yet determined the impact of adoption on its consolidated financial statements.

In June 2015, the FASB issued ASU No. 2015-10, *Technical Corrections and Improvements*. The amendments in this update cover a wide range of Topics in the Codification. The amendments in this update represent changes to make minor corrections or minor improvements to the Codification that are not expected to have a significant effect on current accounting practice or create a significant administrative cost to most entities. This update is the final version of Proposed Accounting Standards Update 2014-240, *Technical Corrections and Improvements*, which has been deleted. The adoption did not have a material effect on the Company's consolidated financial position or results of operations.

In May 2014, the FASB issued ASU 2014-09. The standard provides companies with a single model for use in accounting for revenue arising from contracts with customers and supersedes current revenue recognition guidance, including industry-specific revenue guidance. The core principle of the model is to recognize revenue when control of the goods or services transfers to the customer, as opposed to recognizing revenue when the risks and rewards transfer to the customer under the existing revenue guidance. ASU 2014-09 is effective for annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2016. In August 2015, the

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FASB deferred the effective date to annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2017. Earlier application is permitted only as of annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2016, including interim reporting periods within that reporting period. The guidance permits companies to either apply the requirements retrospectively to all prior periods presented, or apply the requirements in the year of adoption, through a cumulative adjustment. The Company has not yet selected a transition method nor has it determined the impact of adoption on its consolidated financial statements.

Effective May 3, 2015, the Company was required to adopt ASU No. 2014-08, *Reporting Discontinued Operations and Disclosure of Disposals of Components of an Entity*. The amended guidance requires that a disposal representing a strategic shift that has (or will have) a major effect on an entity's financial results or a business activity classified as held for sale should be reported as discontinued operations. The amendments also expand the disclosure requirements for discontinued operations and add new disclosures for individually significant dispositions that do not qualify as discontinued operations. The Company has classified the Spin-Off of Barnes & Noble Education as a discontinued operations starting the second quarter ended October 31, 2015.

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

Separation of B&N Education, Inc.

On February 26, 2015, Barnes & Noble announced plans for the legal and structural separation of Barnes & Noble Education, Inc. (Barnes & Noble Education or B&N Education) (formerly known as NOOK Media Inc.) from Barnes & Noble into an independent public company (the Spin-Off).

On July 14, 2015, the Barnes & Noble board of directors (the Board) approved the final distribution ratio and declared a pro rata dividend of the outstanding shares of B&N Education common stock, which would result in the complete legal and structural separation of the two companies. The distribution was subject to the satisfaction or waiver of certain conditions as set forth in B&N Education's Registration Statement on Form S-1, which was filed with the SEC on February 26, 2015 and was amended on April 29, 2015, June 4, 2015, June 29, 2015, July 13, 2015, July 14, 2015 and July 15, 2015.

On August 2, 2015, Barnes & Noble completed the Spin-Off of Barnes & Noble Education and distributed, on a pro rata basis, all of the shares of B&N Education common stock to the Company's stockholders of record as of July 27, 2015. These Barnes & Noble stockholders of record as of July 27, 2015 received a distribution of 0.632 shares of B&N Education common stock for each share of Barnes & Noble common stock held as of the record date. Immediately following the completion of the Spin-Off, the Company's stockholders owned 100% of the outstanding shares of common stock of B&N Education. Following the Spin-Off, B&N Education operates as an independent public company and as the parent of Barnes & Noble College, trading on New York Stock Exchange under the ticker symbol **BNED**.

In connection with the separation of B&N Education, the Company and B&N Education entered into a Separation and Distribution Agreement on July 14, 2015 and several other ancillary agreements on August 2, 2015. These agreements govern the relationship between the Company and B&N Education after the separation and allocate between the Company and B&N Education various assets, liabilities, rights and obligations following the separation, including employee benefits, intellectual property, information technology, insurance and tax-related assets and liabilities. The agreements also describe the Company's future commitments to provide B&N Education with certain transition services.

This Spin-Off is expected to be a non-taxable event for Barnes & Noble and its shareholders, and Barnes & Noble's U.S. shareholders (other than those subject to special rules) generally will not recognize gain or loss as a result of the distribution of B&N Education shares.

History of B&N Education, Inc.

On September 30, 2009, Barnes & Noble acquired Barnes & Noble College Booksellers, LLC (B&N College) from Leonard and Louise Riggio. From that date until October 4, 2012, B&N College was wholly owned by Barnes & Noble Booksellers, Inc. B&N Education was initially incorporated under the name NOOK Media Inc. in July 2012 to hold Barnes & Noble's B&N College and NOOK digital businesses. On October 4, 2012, Microsoft Corporation (Microsoft) acquired a 17.6% non-controlling preferred membership interest in B&N Education's subsidiary B&N Education, LLC (formerly NOOK Media LLC) (the LLC), and through B&N Education, Barnes & Noble maintained an 82.4% controlling interest of the B&N College and NOOK digital businesses.

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On January 22, 2013, Pearson Education, Inc. (Pearson) acquired a 5% non-controlling preferred membership interest in the LLC, entered into a commercial agreement with the LLC relating to the B&N College business and received warrants to purchase an additional preferred membership interest in the LLC.

On December 4, 2014, B&N Education re-acquired Microsoft's interest in the LLC in exchange for cash and common stock of Barnes & Noble and the Microsoft commercial agreement was terminated effective as of such date. On December 22, 2014, B&N Education also re-acquired Pearson's interest in the LLC and certain related warrants previously issued to Pearson. In connection with these transactions, Barnes & Noble entered into contingent payment agreements with Microsoft and Pearson providing for additional payments upon the occurrence of certain events, including upon a sale of the NOOK digital business. As a result of these transactions, Barnes & Noble owned, prior to the Spin-Off, 100% of B&N Education.

On May 1, 2015, B&N Education distributed to Barnes & Noble all of the membership interests in B&N Education's NOOK digital business. As a result, B&N Education ceased to own any interest in the NOOK digital business, which remains a wholly owned subsidiary of Barnes & Noble.

On July 14, 2015, the Board approved the final distribution ratio and declared a pro rata dividend of the outstanding shares of B&N Education common stock, which resulted in the complete legal and structural separation of the two companies on August 2, 2015.

Discontinued Operations

The Company has recognized the separation of B&N Education in accordance with ASC 205-20, *Discontinued Operations*. As such, the historical results of Barnes & Noble Education for the 13 and 39 weeks ended January 31, 2015 have been adjusted to include pre-spin B&N Education results and separation-related costs and exclude corporate allocations with B&N Retail, and have been classified as discontinued operations. Additionally, discontinued operations for the 39 weeks ended January 30, 2016 include investment banking fees (as they directly relate to the Spin-Off), as well as pre-spin B&N Education results and separation-related costs and exclude corporate allocation adjustments with B&N Retail.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

The primary sources of Barnes & Noble's cash are net cash flows from operating activities, funds available under its credit facility and short-term vendor financing.

Prior to August 3, 2015, the Company was party to an amended and restated credit facility with Bank of America, N.A., as administrative agent, collateral agent and swing line lender, and other lenders, dated as of April 29, 2011 (as amended and modified to date, the Credit Facility), consisting of up to \$1.0 billion in aggregate commitments under a five-year asset-backed revolving credit facility expiring on April 29, 2016.

On August 3, 2015, the Company and certain of its subsidiaries entered into a credit agreement (New Credit Agreement) with Bank of America, N.A., as administrative agent, collateral agent and swing line lender, and the other lenders from time to time party thereto, under which the lenders committed to provide a five-year asset-backed revolving credit facility in an aggregate committed principal amount of \$700.0 million (New Credit Facility). Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated, J.P. Morgan Securities LLC, Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. and SunTrust Robinson Humphrey, Inc. are the joint lead arrangers for the New Credit Facility. The New \$700.0 million Credit Facility replaced the \$1.0 billion Credit Facility. Proceeds from the New Credit Facility are expected to be used for general corporate purposes, including seasonal working capital needs.

The Company and certain of its subsidiaries will be permitted to borrow under the New Credit Facility. The New Credit Facility is secured by substantially all of the inventory, accounts receivable and related assets of the borrowers under the New Credit Facility (collectively, the Loan Parties), but excluding the equity interests in the Company and its subsidiaries, intellectual property, equipment and certain other property. Borrowings under the New Credit Facility are limited to a specified percentage of eligible collateral. The Company has the option to request an increase in commitments under the New Credit Facility of up to \$250.0 million, subject to certain restrictions.

Interest under the New Credit Facility accrues, at the election of the Company, at a LIBOR or alternate base rate, plus, in each case, an applicable interest rate margin, which is determined by reference to the level of excess availability under the New Credit Facility. Loans will initially bear interest at LIBOR plus 1.750% per annum, in the case of LIBOR borrowings, or at the alternate base rate plus 0.750% per annum, in the alternative, and thereafter the interest rate will fluctuate between LIBOR plus 2.000% per annum and LIBOR plus 1.500% per annum (or between the alternate base rate plus 1.000% per annum and the alternate base rate plus 0.500% per annum), based upon the excess availability under the New Credit Facility at such time.

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The New Credit Agreement contains customary negative covenants, which limit the Company's ability to incur additional indebtedness, create liens, make investments, make restricted payments or specified payments and merge or acquire assets, among other things. In addition, if excess availability under the New Credit Facility were to fall below certain specified levels, certain additional covenants (including fixed charge coverage ratio requirements) would be triggered, and the lenders will assume dominion and control over the Loan Parties' cash.

The New Credit Agreement contains customary events of default, including payment defaults, material breaches of representations and warranties, covenant defaults, default on other material indebtedness, customary ERISA events of default, bankruptcy and insolvency, material judgments, invalidity of liens on collateral, change of control or cessation of business. The New Credit Agreement also contains customary affirmative covenants and representations and warranties.

The Company wrote off \$0.5 million of deferred financing fees related to the Credit Facility during the 39 weeks ended January 30, 2016 and the remaining unamortized deferred financing fees of \$3.5 million were deferred and will be amortized over the five-year term of the New Credit Facility. The Company also incurred \$5.7 million of fees to secure the New Credit Facility, which will be amortized over the five-year term accordingly.

The Company incurred \$7.0 million of investment banking fees directly related to the Spin-Off, which have been classified as discontinued operations during the 39 weeks ended January 30, 2016.

The Company's cash and cash equivalents were \$63.6 million as of January 30, 2016, compared with \$152.1 million as of January 31, 2015. The decrease in cash and cash equivalents of \$88.5 million versus the prior year period includes changes in working capital and cash flows as outlined below.

Net cash flows provided by operating activities for the 39 weeks ended January 30, 2016 were \$246.1 million, as compared to net cash flows provided by operating activities of \$124.9 million for the 39 weeks ended January 31, 2015. The favorable year-over-year comparison was primarily attributable to changes in working capital.

Net cash flows used in investing activities for the 39 weeks ended January 30, 2016 were \$70.7 million, as compared to net cash flows used in investing activities of \$65.2 million for the 39 weeks ended January 31, 2015. The Company's investing activities consist principally of capital expenditures for the maintenance of existing stores and enhancements to systems and the website. Capital expenditures totaled \$69.8 million and \$65.7 million during the 39 weeks ended January 30, 2016 and January 31, 2015, respectively.

Net cash flows used in financing activities for the 39 weeks ended January 30, 2016 were \$72.0 million on common and preferred dividends, fees incurred to enter into the New Credit Facility, share repurchases and other financing activities. Net cash flows used in financing activities of \$160.6 million for the 39 weeks ended January 31, 2015 included the repayment of the junior seller note, the acquisition of preferred membership interests and preferred dividends, offset by Microsoft proceeds.

The Company had no borrowings under its \$700.0 million New Credit Facility at January 30, 2016 and no borrowings under its \$1.0 billion previous Credit Facility at January 31, 2015. The Company had \$47.9 million of outstanding letters of credit as of January 30, 2016 compared with \$67.3 million as of January 31, 2015.

Additional year-over-year balance sheet changes include the following:

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Receivables, net decreased \$3.9 million, or 5.4%, to \$69.4 million as of January 30, 2016, compared to \$73.3 million as of January 31, 2015.

Merchandise inventories increased \$12.6 million, or 1.2%, to \$1.044 billion as of January 30, 2016, compared to \$1.031 billion as of January 31, 2015. Retail inventories increased \$15.9 million, or 1.6%, primarily on planned increases to support merchandising initiatives and core comparable sales growth. NOOK inventories decreased \$3.3 million, or 14.2%, versus the prior year on lower device volume.

Prepaid expenses and other current assets remained flat at \$66.7 million as of January 30, 2016 as compared to January 31, 2015.

Short-term deferred taxes decreased \$4.0 million, or 3.3%, to \$117.8 million as of January 30, 2016 as compared to \$121.8 million as of January 31, 2015.

Property and equipment, net decreased \$42.2 million, or 12.1%, to \$307.2 million as of January 30, 2016, compared to \$349.3 million as of January 31, 2015 as depreciation outpaced capital expenditures.

Intangible assets, net decreased \$5.2 million, or 1.7%, to \$311.1 million as of January 30, 2016, compared to \$316.3 million as of January 31, 2015 on additional amortization and a \$3.8 million impairment of a publishing contract.

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Other noncurrent assets increased \$1.8 million, or 18.8%, to \$11.6 million as of January 30, 2016, compared to \$9.8 million as of January 31, 2015. Financing fees related to the New Credit Facility were partially offset by the amortization of prior facility financing fees over the past twelve months.

Accounts payable decreased \$19.0 million, or 3.2%, to \$577.0 million as of January 30, 2016, compared to \$595.9 million as of January 31, 2015. Accounts payable were 55.3% and 57.8% of merchandise inventory as of January 30, 2016 and January 31, 2015, respectively. This ratio is subject to changes in product mix and the timing of purchases, payments and returns.

Accrued liabilities decreased \$39.9 million, or 10.7%, to \$334.3 million as of January 30, 2016, compared to \$374.2 million as of January 31, 2015. Accrued liabilities include deferred income, accrued taxes, compensation, occupancy related, legal and other selling and administrative miscellaneous accruals. This decrease was primarily due to lower device-related liabilities and tax liabilities, offset by an increase in the pension liability due to reclassification from long-term.

Gift card liabilities decreased \$5.2 million, or 1.3%, to \$384.9 million as of January 30, 2016, compared to \$390.1 million as of January 31, 2015. The Company estimates the portion of the gift card liability for which the likelihood of redemption is remote based upon the Company's historical redemption patterns. The Company recognized gift card breakage of \$13.5 million and \$10.1 million during the 13 weeks ended January 30, 2016 and January 31, 2015, respectively, and \$24.1 million and \$21.3 million during the 39 weeks ended January 30, 2016 and January 31, 2015, respectively. Additional breakage may be required if gift card redemptions continue to run lower than historical patterns.

Long-term deferred taxes decreased \$10.0 million, or 6.9%, to \$134.1 million as of January 30, 2016, compared to \$144.1 million as of January 31, 2015 primarily due to timing differences.

Other long-term liabilities decreased \$16.7 million, or 10.7%, to \$138.7 million as of January 30, 2016, compared to \$155.3 million as of January 31, 2015 due to lower deferred rent and reclassification of pension liability to short-term, partially offset by higher tax reserves.

During July 2015, the outstanding Series J Preferred Stock was converted to shares of the Company's Common Stock.

In December 2014, the Company re-acquired Microsoft and Pearson's interest in NOOK Media, Inc. in exchange for \$76.2 million cash and \$76.2 million in common stock of

Barnes & Noble.

The Company has arrangements with third-party manufacturers to produce certain NOOK® products. These manufacturers procure and assemble unfinished parts and components from third-party suppliers based on forecasts provided by the Company. Given production lead times, commitments are generally made far in advance of finished product delivery. Based on current purchase commitments and product development plans, the Company records a provision for purchase commitments. Future charges may be required based on changes in forecasted sales or strategic direction.

The Company provided credits to eligible customers resulting from the settlements reached with certain publishers in antitrust lawsuits filed by various State Attorney Generals and private class plaintiffs regarding the price of digital books. The Company's customers were entitled to \$44.2 million in total credits as a result of the settlement, which was funded by these publishers. During fiscal 2015, the Company received \$31.9 million from these publishers related to this liability to the Company's customers, all of which were activated by customers as of March 2015. The Company's customers' credits that were not activated by March 2015 expired.

On April 27, 2012, Barnes & Noble entered into an investment agreement, pursuant to which Barnes & Noble transferred to the LLC its digital device, digital content and college bookstore businesses, and Morrison Investment Holdings, Inc. (Morrison) purchased from the LLC 300,000 convertible preferred membership interests in the LLC (Series A Preferred) for an aggregate purchase price of \$300.0 million. Concurrently with its entry into this agreement, Barnes & Noble also entered into a commercial agreement with Microsoft, pursuant to which, among other things, the LLC would develop and distribute a Windows 8 application for eReading and digital content purchases, and an intellectual property license and settlement agreement with Microsoft and Microsoft Licensing GP. The parties closed Morrison's investment in the LLC and the commercial agreement became effective on October 4, 2012.

On December 3, 2014, Morrison, Microsoft, Barnes & Noble and Barnes & Noble Education entered into agreements, pursuant to which Morrison's interest in the LLC was purchased by Barnes & Noble Education and the Microsoft commercial agreement was terminated effective as of such date. Pursuant to the Purchase Agreement (the Purchase Agreement) among Barnes & Noble, Barnes & Noble Education, Morrison and Microsoft, Barnes & Noble Education purchased from Morrison, and Morrison sold, all of its \$300.0 million convertible Series A preferred limited liability company interest in the LLC in exchange for an aggregate purchase price of \$124.9 million consisting of (i) \$62.4 million in cash and (ii) 2,737,290 shares of common stock, par value \$0.001 per share, of Barnes & Noble. The Purchase Agreement closed on December 4, 2014. The Company accounted for this transaction in

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accordance with ASC 810-10, *Non-Controlling Interest* (ASC 810-10) and it accordingly was reflected as an equity transaction. In connection with the closing, the parties entered into a Digital Business Contingent Payment Agreement, pursuant to which Microsoft is entitled to receive 22.7% of the proceeds from, among other events or transactions, (1) any future dividends or other distributions received from Barnes & Noble's NOOK digital business at any time until the date that is three years from the closing, subject to a one-year extension under certain circumstances, and (2) the sale of Barnes & Noble's NOOK digital business at any time until the date that is three years from the closing, subject to a one-year extension under certain circumstances.

On December 21, 2012, the LLC entered into an agreement with a subsidiary of Pearson plc (Pearson) to make a strategic investment in the LLC. That transaction closed on January 22, 2013, and Pearson invested approximately \$89.5 million of cash in the LLC in exchange for preferred membership interests representing a 5% equity stake in the LLC. Following the closing of the transaction, Barnes & Noble owned approximately 78.2% of the LLC and Microsoft owned approximately 16.8%. The preferred membership interests had a liquidation preference equal to the original investment. In addition, the LLC granted warrants to Pearson to purchase up to an additional 5% of the LLC under certain conditions. Upon the completion of the acquisition of Pearson's interest in the LLC, as stated below, the temporary equity was converted to permanent equity.

At closing, the LLC and Pearson entered into a commercial agreement with respect to distributing Pearson content in connection with this strategic investment. On December 27, 2013, the LLC entered into an amendment to the commercial agreement that extends the term of the agreement and the timing of the measurement period to meet certain revenue share milestones.

On December 22, 2014, Barnes & Noble entered into a Purchase Agreement (the Pearson Purchase Agreement) among Barnes & Noble, Barnes & Noble Education, NOOK Media Member Two LLC, a Delaware limited liability company (NOOK Member Two), Pearson Education, Inc. (Pearson Education) and Pearson Inc., pursuant to which Barnes & Noble Education and NOOK Member Two purchased from Pearson Education all of its convertible Series B preferred limited liability company interest in the LLC and all of its warrants to purchase additional Series B preferred limited liability company interests, in exchange for an aggregate purchase price equal to (i) \$13.8 million in cash and (ii) 602,927 shares of common stock, par value \$0.001 per share, of Barnes & Noble. The transactions under the Pearson Purchase Agreement closed on December 22, 2014. The Company accounted for this transaction in accordance with ASC 810-10 and it accordingly was reflected as an equity transaction. As a condition to closing, the parties entered into an amended and restated Digital Business Contingent Payment Agreement, pursuant to which a Digital Business Contingent Payment Agreement dated as of December 3, 2014, by and between Barnes & Noble, the LLC and Pearson, was amended and restated to include provisions consistent with the Digital Business Contingent Payment Agreement entered into with Morrison on December 3, 2014.

On June 4, 2014, NOOK Digital, LLC (NOOK Digital) (formerly NOOK Media Sub and barnesandnoble.com llc), a wholly owned subsidiary of B&N Education as of such date and a subsidiary of Barnes & Noble, entered into a commercial agreement (Agreement) with Samsung Electronics America, Inc. (Samsung) relating to tablets.

Pursuant to the Agreement, NOOK Digital, after good faith consultations with Samsung and subject to Samsung's agreement, selected Samsung tablet devices under development to be customized and co-branded by NOOK Digital. Such devices are produced by Samsung. The co-branded NOOK® tablet devices are sold by NOOK Digital through Barnes & Noble retail stores, www.barnesandnoble.com and www.nook.com.

Under the Agreement, NOOK Digital committed to purchase a minimum of 1,000,000 NOOK®-Samsung co-branded devices from Samsung within 12 months after the launch of the initial co-branded device, which launch occurred on August 20, 2014. The 12-month period was automatically extended by three months due to the quantity of sales of

such co-branded devices through December 31, 2014, and the period was further extended until June 30, 2016 by an amendment executed by the parties on March 7, 2015. The parties are currently in discussions with respect to modifying the agreement, including but not limited to modifying the minimum device commitment, although there can be no assurance that those discussions will lead to a modified agreement.

NOOK Digital and Samsung have agreed to coordinate customer service for the co-branded NOOK® devices and have both agreed to a license of intellectual property to promote and market the devices. Additionally, Samsung has agreed to fund a marketing fund for the co-branded NOOK® devices at the initial launch and for the duration of the Agreement.

The Agreement has a two-year term, with certain termination rights, including termination (i) by NOOK Digital for a Samsung material default; (ii) by Samsung for a NOOK Digital material default; (iii) by NOOK Digital if Samsung fails to meet its shipping and delivery obligations in any material respect on a timely basis; and (iv) by either party upon insolvency or bankruptcy of the other party.

On August 18, 2011, the Company entered into an investment agreement between the Company and Liberty GIC, Inc. (Liberty), pursuant to which the Company issued and sold to Liberty, and Liberty purchased, 204,000 shares of the Company's Series J Preferred Stock, par value \$0.001 per share (Preferred Stock), for an aggregate purchase price of \$204.0 million in a private

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placement exempt from the registration requirements of the 1933 Act. The shares of Preferred Stock were convertible, at the option of the holders, into shares of Common Stock representing 16.6% of the Common Stock outstanding as of August 29, 2011 (after giving pro forma effect to the issuance of the Preferred Stock) based on the initial conversion rate. The initial conversion rate reflected an initial conversion price of \$17.00 and was subject to adjustment in certain circumstances. The initial dividend rate for the Preferred Stock was equal to 7.75% per annum of the initial liquidation preference of the Preferred Stock paid quarterly and subject to adjustment in certain circumstances.

On April 8, 2014, Liberty sold the majority of its shares to qualified institutional buyers in reliance on Rule 144A under the Securities Act and had retained an approximate 10 percent stake of its initial investment. As a result, Liberty no longer had the right to elect two preferred stock directors to the Company's Board. Additionally, the consent rights and pre-emptive rights, to which Liberty was previously entitled, ceased to apply.

On June 5, 2015, the Company entered into conversion agreements with five beneficial owners (Series J Holders) of its Preferred Stock, pursuant to which each of the Series J Holders had agreed to convert (Conversion) shares of Preferred Stock it beneficially owned into shares of the Company's common stock, par value \$0.001 per share (Company Common Stock), and additionally received a cash payment from the Company in connection with the Conversion.

On July 9, 2015, the Company completed the Conversion. Pursuant to the terms of the Conversion Agreements, the Company issued 6,117,342 shares of Company Common Stock, and made an aggregate cash payment to the Series J Holders of \$3.7 million plus cash in lieu of fractional shares in connection with the Conversion.

On July 10, 2015, the Company gave notice of its exercise of the right to force conversion of all outstanding shares of its Senior Convertible Redeemable Series J Preferred Stock into Company Common Stock pursuant to Section 9 of the Certificate of Designations, Preferences and Relative Participating, Optional and Other Special Rights and Qualifications, Limitations and Restrictions of Series J Preferred Stock, dated as of August 18, 2011 (the Forced Conversion). The effective date of the Forced Conversion was July 24, 2015. On the date of the Forced Conversion, each share of Series J Preferred Stock was automatically converted into 59.8727 shares of Company Common Stock, which included shares of Company Common Stock reflecting accrued and unpaid dividends on Series J Preferred Stock. Each holder of Series J Preferred Stock received whole shares of Company Common Stock and a cash amount in lieu of fractional shares of Company Common Stock.

As a result of the transactions described above, all shares of Series J Preferred Stock were retired by the Company and are no longer outstanding.

On August 2, 2015, Michael P. Huseby resigned from the Company's Board of Directors and as Chief Executive Officer of the Company, which was contingent upon the successful separation of B&N Education. In connection with his termination of employment, he received severance payments based on the terms of his employment agreement with the Company, effective as of January 7, 2014. Under the terms of his employment agreement, upon a resignation for "Good Reason", Mr. Huseby was entitled to receive lump-sum severance equal to two times the sum of (a) annual base salary, (b) the average annual incentive compensation paid to the named executive officer with respect to the preceding two completed years and (c) the cost of benefits. In addition, Mr. Huseby was entitled to accelerated vesting of the equity-based awards granted pursuant to his employment agreement. As a result, Mr. Huseby received a severance payment equal to \$7.7 million and additionally was entitled to 300,000 shares of the Company's common stock pursuant to the accelerated vesting of the equity-based awards, which were settled for cash based on the closing price of the Company's common stock on the record date of the Spin-Off in an amount equal to \$8.0 million. The net cash payments related to Mr. Huseby's resignation totaled \$15.7 million during the second quarter ending October 31, 2015. Mr. Huseby's 300,000 shares have been ratably expensed from the initial grant date, thereby reducing the total

resignation charge to \$10.5 million, which was recorded within selling and administrative expenses during the second quarter ending October 31, 2015.

Based upon the Company's current operating levels and capital expenditures for fiscal 2016, management believes cash and cash equivalents on hand, funds available under its credit facility and short-term vendor financing will be sufficient to meet the Company's normal working capital and debt service requirements for at least the next twelve months. The Company regularly evaluates its capital structure and conditions in the financing markets to ensure it maintains adequate flexibility to successfully execute its business plan.

Segments

The Company identifies its operating segments based on the way the business is managed (focusing on the financial information distributed) and the manner in which the chief operating decision maker interacts with other members of management. The Company's two operating segments are B&N Retail and NOOK.

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Seasonality

The B&N Retail business, like that of many retailers, is seasonal, with the major portion of sales and operating profit realized during its third fiscal quarter, which includes the holiday selling season.

The NOOK business, like that of many technology companies, is impacted by the launch of new products and the promotional efforts to support those new products, as well as the traditional retail holiday selling seasonality.

Business Overview

The Company's financial performance has been significantly impacted by a number of factors over the past several years, including the growth of the digital book market and increased online competition. The Company derives the majority of its sales and cash flows from its B&N Retail stores.

In recent years, B&N Retail has experienced declining sales trends due to secular industry challenges, leading to lower comparable store sales, decreased online sales and store closures. The Company also experienced expense deleverage due to the declining sales trends. More recently, the Company benefited from favorable book industry trends, including a moderation of the growth of the digital book market. In addition, the Company implemented successful merchandising initiatives which improved traffic and sales trends, especially in its non-book businesses. The Company has also increased the size and scope of its in-store events, which now include nationwide campaigns, such as Get Pop-Cultured and Maker Faire, that increase traffic and sales and further reinforce Barnes & Noble as a community center. The Company has also improved the display of book titles in its stores to make books easier to discover amongst its vast selection, which it believes has improved performance. The Company has also benefited from reduced physical bookstore competition in the marketplace, and continues to expect to benefit from further market consolidation as non-book retailers reduce their presence in the book category. The Company launched a new eCommerce platform in June 2015 and expected certain challenges that generally accompany any new site launch. However, the challenges were greater than anticipated and reduced traffic, as well as conversion. The Company has been and continues to implement website fixes to increase traffic and conversion on the site, as well as improve the overall user experience. BN.com is an important component of the Company's omni-channel strategy and it believes that in the long term the new platform will enable it to be more competitive in the marketplace.

NOOK represents the Company's digital business, which includes the Company's eBookstore, digital newsstand and sales of NOOK® devices and accessories. The underlying strategy of the NOOK business is to offer customers any digital book, newspaper or magazine, anytime, on any device. The Company remains committed to delivering to customers the best digital bookstore experience, providing easy access to Barnes & Noble's expansive digital collection of approximately four million eBooks, digital magazines and newspapers, while rationalizing its existing cost structure. As part of this commitment, the Company entered into a partnership with Samsung to develop co-branded NOOK® tablets that feature the award-winning Barnes & Noble digital reading experience, while continuing to develop and offer its own black-and-white NOOK® eReaders.

The Company expects to continue to complement its traditional retail bookstore business with its digital and online content to offer customers any book, anytime, anywhere and in any format. The Company is in the process of integrating its Retail and NOOK businesses, which it believes will yield cost savings and provide richer insights into its customer base and how to better serve them through a single view of the customer.

Results of Operations

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The following tables summarize the Company's results of operations for the 13 and 39 weeks ended January 30, 2016 compared with the 13 and 39 weeks ended January 31, 2015.

Sales

| <i>Dollars in thousands</i> | 13 weeks ended | | | | 39 weeks ended | | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|---------|---------------------|---------|---------------------|---------|---------------------|---------|
| | January 30, 2016 | % Total | January 31, 2015 | % Total | January 30, 2016 | % Total | January 31, 2015 | % Total |
| B&N Retail | \$ 1,378,887 | 97.5% | \$ 1,395,917 | 96.9% | \$ 3,178,590 | 96.7% | \$ 3,238,883 | 95.6% |
| NOOK | 51,737 | 3.7% | 77,509 | 5.4% | 149,568 | 4.6% | 211,402 | 6.2% |
| Elimination | (16,677) | (1.2)% | (33,294) | (2.3)% | (40,998) | (1.2)% | (63,256) | (1.9)% |
| Total Sales | \$ 1,413,947 | 100.0% | \$ 1,440,132 | 100.0% | \$ 3,287,160 | 100.0% | \$ 3,387,029 | 100.0% |

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During the 13 weeks ended January 30, 2016, the Company's sales decreased \$26.2 million, or 1.8%, to \$1.414 billion from \$1.440 billion during the 13 weeks ended January 31, 2015. The changes by segment are as follows:

B&N Retail sales decreased \$17.0 million, or 1.2%, to \$1.379 billion from \$1.396 billion during the same period one year ago, and accounted for 97.5% of total Company sales. Online sales were impacted by the launch of the new BN.com website, decreasing \$15.6 million, or 12.5%, versus the prior year. Closed stores decreased sales by \$12.4 million. These decreases were partially offset by an increase in comparable store sales of \$2.6 million, or 0.2%, and a \$3.4 million increase in gift card breakage as redemptions continue to run lower than historical patterns. B&N Retail also includes third-party sales of Sterling Publishing Co., Inc., which increased by \$2.6 million, or 25.8%.

Of the \$2.6 million increase in comparable store sales, core comparable store sales, which exclude sales of NOOK® products, increased \$14.6 million, or 1.3%, as compared to the prior year. Non-book core categories increased sales by \$26.9 million, or 6.3%, on growth of the Toys & Games, Vinyl and Gift businesses. Book categories decreased sales by \$12.3 million, or 1.7%, on lower sales of Trade and Juvenile titles, partially offset by strong sales of coloring books. Sales of NOOK® products at B&N Retail stores decreased \$11.8 million, or 37.3%, primarily on lower device unit volume and lower average selling prices.

NOOK sales decreased \$25.8 million, or 33.3%, to \$51.7 million from \$77.5 million during the same period one year ago, and accounted for 3.7% of total Company sales. Device and accessories sales decreased \$16.3 million, or 44.1%, to \$20.7 million on lower unit sales and lower average selling prices. Digital content sales decreased \$9.5 million, or 23.3%, to \$31.0 million primarily on lower unit sales.

Elimination sales, which represent sales from NOOK to B&N Retail on a sell-through basis, decreased \$16.6 million, or 49.9%, versus the prior year. NOOK sales, net of elimination, accounted for 2.5% of total Company sales.

During the 13 weeks ended January 30, 2016, B&N Retail had no store openings and seven store closings.

During the 39 weeks ended January 30, 2016, the Company's sales decreased \$99.9 million, or 2.9%, to \$3.287 billion from \$3.387 billion during the 39 weeks ended January 31, 2015. The changes by segment are as follows:

B&N Retail sales decreased \$60.3 million, or 1.9%, to \$3.179 billion from \$3.239 billion during the same period one year ago, and accounted for 96.7% of total Company sales. Online sales were impacted by the launch of the new BN.com website, decreasing \$39.3 million, or 14.3%, versus the prior year. Closed stores decreased sales by \$30.7 million. Device warranty reimbursements, resulting from favorable claims experience with a warranty service provider, decreased \$4.8 million on a year-to-date basis as compared to prior year due to a smaller claim period and lower volume. These unfavorable variances were partially offset by an increase in comparable store sales of \$4.0 million, or 0.2%, and a \$2.9 million increase in gift card breakage as redemptions continue to run lower than historical patterns.

B&N Retail also includes third-party sales of Sterling Publishing Co., Inc., which increased by \$3.1 million, or 9.5%.

Of the \$4.0 million increase in comparable store sales, core comparable store sales, which exclude sales of NOOK® products, increased \$18.6 million, or 0.7%, as compared to the prior year. Non-book core categories increased sales by \$45.3 million, or 5.0%, on growth of the Toys & Games, Vinyl and Gift businesses. Book categories decreased sales by \$26.7 million, or 1.5%, primarily on lower sales of Trade and Juvenile titles, partially offset by strong sales of coloring books. Sales of NOOK® products at B&N Retail stores decreased \$14.3 million, or 23.0%, versus the prior year on lower device unit sales and lower average selling prices.

NOOK sales decreased \$61.8 million, or 29.2%, to \$149.6 million from \$211.4 million during the same period one year ago, and accounted for 4.6% of total Company sales. Digital content sales decreased \$37.5 million, or 27.2%, to \$100.1 million primarily on lower unit sales. Device and accessories sales decreased \$24.3 million, or 33.0%, to \$49.4 million primarily on lower unit sales.

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Elimination sales, which represent sales from NOOK to B&N Retail on a sell-through basis, decreased \$22.3 million, or 35.2%, versus the prior year. NOOK sales, net of elimination, accounted for 3.3% of total Company sales.

During the 39 weeks ended January 30, 2016, B&N Retail had no store openings and eight store closings.

Cost of Sales and Occupancy

| <i>Dollars in thousands</i> | 13 weeks ended | | | | 39 weeks ended | | | |
|--|---------------------|---------------|---------------------|---------------|---------------------|---------------|---------------------|---------------|
| | January 30, 2016 | % of Sales | January 31, 2015 | % of Sales | January 30, 2016 | % of Sales | January 31, 2015 | % of Sales |
| B&N Retail | \$ 904,292 | 65.6% | \$ 914,157 | 65.5% | \$ 2,168,992 | 68.2% | \$ 2,197,930 | 67.9% |
| NOOK | 34,677 | 67.0% | 53,485 | 69.0% | 97,627 | 65.3% | 126,238 | 59.7% |
| Elimination | (16,677) | (32.2)% | (33,294) | (43.0)% | (40,998) | (27.4)% | (63,256) | (29.9)% |
| Total Cost of Sales and Occupancy | \$ 922,292 | 65.2% | \$ 934,348 | 64.9% | \$ 2,225,621 | 67.7% | \$ 2,260,912 | 66.8% |

The Company's cost of sales and occupancy includes costs such as merchandise costs, distribution center costs (including payroll, freight, supplies, depreciation and other operating expenses), rental expense, common area maintenance and real estate taxes, partially offset by landlord tenant allowances amortized over the life of the lease.

During the 13 weeks ended January 30, 2016, cost of sales and occupancy decreased \$12.1 million, or 1.3%, to \$922.3 million from \$934.3 million during the 13 weeks ended January 31, 2015. Cost of sales and occupancy increased as a percentage of sales to 65.2% from 64.9% during the same period one year ago. The percent of sales changes by segment are as follows:

B&N Retail cost of sales and occupancy increased as a percentage of sales to 65.6% from 65.5%, or 10 basis points, during the same period one year ago. The prior year included a decline in reserves for non-returnable products (40 basis points), whereas the current year included an increase in reserves (20 basis points) on higher non-returnable product levels. Distribution center costs increased 20 basis points primarily on the residual impact of the prior quarter transition to a new third-party service provider. These unfavorable variances were primarily offset by favorable vendor settlements (30 basis points), product mix (40 basis points) and increased gift card breakage (25 basis points). The remaining variance was comprised of sales deleverage and general timing differences.

NOOK cost of sales and occupancy remained relatively consistent, decreasing as a percentage of sales to 67.0% from 69.0% during the same period one year ago.

During the 39 weeks ended January 30, 2016, cost of sales and occupancy decreased \$35.3 million, or 1.6%, to \$2.226 billion from \$2.261 billion during the 39 weeks ended January 31, 2015. Cost of sales and occupancy increased as a percentage of sales to 67.7% from 66.8% during the same period one year ago. The percent of sales changes by segment are as follows:

B&N Retail cost of sales and occupancy increased as a percentage of sales to 68.2% from 67.9%, or 35 basis points, during the same period one year ago. Distribution costs increased 25 basis points on the transition to a new third-party service provider during the year, as well as expense deleverage. The balance of the variance was primarily attributable to higher reserves on non-returnable products (30 basis points), higher occupancy costs (20 basis points) and lower warranty reimbursements (15 basis points), partially offset by a favorable product mix (40 basis points) and increased vendor allowances (15 basis points).

NOOK cost of sales and occupancy increased as a percentage of sales to 65.3% from 59.7% during the same period one year ago. The prior year included a favorable benefit from the adjustment of lease accounting items to reflect the impact of the Palo Alto relocations. This benefit, net of closing costs, was primarily driven by the reversal of previously deferred rent liabilities upon exiting the facility. In addition, the prior year included a favorable reduction in costs of goods sold on renegotiated parts and components liabilities. Cost of sales and occupancy was also impacted by product mix, sales deleverage and general timing differences.

Table of Contents*Gross Profit*

| <i>Dollars in thousands</i> | 13 weeks ended | | | | 39 weeks ended | | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|---------------|---------------------|---------------|---------------------|---------------|---------------------|---------------|
| | January 30, 2016 | % of Sales | January 31, 2015 | % of Sales | January 30, 2016 | % of Sales | January 31, 2015 | % of Sales |
| B&N Retail | \$ 474,595 | 34.4% | \$ 481,760 | 34.5% | \$ 1,009,598 | 31.8% | \$ 1,040,953 | 32.1% |
| NOOK | 17,060 | 48.7% | 24,024 | 54.3% | 51,941 | 47.8% | 85,164 | 57.5% |
| Total Gross Profit | \$ 491,655 | 34.8% | \$ 505,784 | 35.1% | \$ 1,061,539 | 32.3% | \$ 1,126,117 | 33.2% |

The Company's consolidated gross profit decreased \$14.1 million, or 2.8%, to \$491.7 million during the 13 weeks ended January 30, 2016 from \$505.8 million during the 13 weeks ended January 31, 2015. This decrease was due to the matters discussed above.

The Company's consolidated gross profit decreased \$64.6 million, or 5.7%, to \$1.062 billion during the 39 weeks ended January 30, 2016 from \$1.126 billion during the 39 weeks ended January 31, 2015. This decrease was due to the matters discussed above.

Selling and Administrative Expenses

| <i>Dollars in thousands</i> | 13 weeks ended | | | | 39 weeks ended | | | |
|--|---------------------|---------------|---------------------|---------------|---------------------|---------------|---------------------|---------------|
| | January 30, 2016 | % of Sales | January 31, 2015 | % of Sales | January 30, 2016 | % of Sales | January 31, 2015 | % of Sales |
| B&N Retail | \$ 294,438 | 21.4% | \$ 286,371 | 20.5% | \$ 783,353 | 24.6% | \$ 756,362 | 23.4% |
| NOOK | 28,214 | 80.5% | 53,061 | 120.0% | 101,710 | 93.7% | 154,717 | 104.4% |
| Total Selling and Administrative Expenses | \$ 322,652 | 22.8% | \$ 339,432 | 23.6% | \$ 885,063 | 26.9% | \$ 911,079 | 26.9% |

Selling and administrative expenses decreased \$16.8 million, or 4.9%, to \$322.7 million during the 13 weeks ended January 30, 2016 from \$339.4 million during the 13 weeks ended January 31, 2015. Selling and administrative expenses decreased as a percentage of sales to 22.8% from 23.6% as compared to the same period one year ago. The percent of sales changes by segment are as follows:

B&N Retail selling and administrative expenses increased as a percentage of sales to 21.4% from 20.5% during the same period one year ago. The current year included an impairment charge on a publishing contract of \$3.8 million. Excluding this impairment charge, selling and administrative expenses increased approximately 55 basis points as a percentage of sales to 21.1% from 20.5% for the quarter. Advertising costs increased 80 basis points as the Company invested in the bookstore-focused *You never know who you'll meet at Barnes & Noble* holiday television campaign. Store payroll increased 20 basis points (on store sales) as wage increases outpaced productivity gains during the quarter. Employee benefit costs

also increased 20 basis points. The new website increased expenses by 20 basis points due to additional costs to stabilize the site, increase traffic, and improve the overall user experience. These increases were partially offset by a \$7.3 million (50 basis points) pension settlement charge recorded in the prior year. The remaining variance was attributable to the general timing of expenses.

NOOK selling and administrative expenses decreased as a percentage of sales to 80.5% from 120.0% during the same period one year ago. On a dollar basis, selling and administrative expenses declined \$24.8 million primarily on cost rationalization efforts, including lower compensation, advertising, consulting and legal costs, as well as lower variable costs on the sales decline. While total Company advertising spend remained consistent versus the prior year, NOOK advertising expenses were reduced as the Company invested in the bookstore-focused holiday television campaign.

Selling and administrative expenses decreased \$26.0 million, or 2.9%, to \$885.1 million during the 39 weeks ended January 30, 2016 from \$911.1 million during the 39 weeks ended January 31, 2015. Selling and administrative expenses as a percentage of sales remained flat at 26.9% as compared to the same period one year ago. The percent of sales changes by segment are as follows:

B&N Retail selling and administrative expenses increased as a percentage of sales to 24.6% from 23.4% during the same period one year ago. The current year included executive severance costs of \$10.5 million and an impairment charge on a publishing contract of \$3.8 million. Excluding these charges, selling and administrative expenses increased 85 basis points as a percentage of sales to 24.2% from 23.4% during the

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same period one year ago. Advertising costs increased 35 basis points on the holiday television campaign. Store payroll increased 25 basis points (on store sales) as wage increases outpaced productivity gains on a year-to-date basis. The new website increased expenses by 15 basis points due to a significant amount of website fixes to stabilize the site, increase traffic and improve the overall user experience. Other increases include increased employee benefit costs (15 basis points) and higher professional fees (10 basis points). These increases were partially offset by a decrease in pension costs (15 basis points) as the prior year included a \$7.3 million settlement charge. The remaining variance was attributable to the general timing of expenses.

NOOK selling and administrative expenses decreased as a percentage of sales to 93.7% from 104.4% during the same period one year ago. On a dollar basis, selling and administrative expenses decreased \$53.0 million on cost rationalization efforts, including lower compensation-related costs, advertising, consulting and legal costs, as well as lower variable costs on the sales decline.

Depreciation and Amortization

| <i>Dollars in thousands</i> | 13 weeks ended | | | | 39 weeks ended | | | |
|--|---------------------|---------------|---------------------|---------------|---------------------|---------------|---------------------|---------------|
| | January 30, 2016 | % of Sales | January 31, 2015 | % of Sales | January 30, 2016 | % of Sales | January 31, 2015 | % of Sales |
| B&N Retail | \$ 26,853 | 1.9% | \$ 25,581 | 1.8% | \$ 78,079 | 2.5% | \$ 79,953 | 2.5% |
| NOOK | 8,294 | 23.7% | 9,690 | 21.9% | 25,785 | 23.7% | 29,997 | 20.2% |
| Total Depreciation and Amortization | \$ 35,147 | 2.5% | \$ 35,271 | 2.4% | \$ 103,864 | 3.2% | \$ 109,950 | 3.2% |

During the 13 weeks ended January 30, 2016, depreciation and amortization decreased \$0.1 million, or 0.4%, to \$35.1 million from \$35.3 million during the same period one year ago. The impact of fully depreciated assets and store closings were essentially offset by additional capital expenditures.

During the 39 weeks ended January 30, 2016, depreciation and amortization decreased \$6.1 million, or 5.5%, to \$103.9 million from \$110.0 million during the same period one year ago. This decrease was primarily attributable to fully depreciated assets and store closings, partially offset by additional capital expenditures.

Operating Profit (Loss)

| <i>Dollars in thousands</i> | 13 weeks ended | | | | 39 weeks ended | | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|---------------|---------------------|---------------|---------------------|---------------|---------------------|---------------|
| | January 30, 2016 | % of Sales | January 31, 2015 | % of Sales | January 30, 2016 | % of Sales | January 31, 2015 | % of Sales |
| B&N Retail | \$ 153,304 | 11.1% | \$ 169,808 | 12.2% | \$ 148,166 | 4.7% | \$ 204,638 | 6.3% |
| NOOK | (19,448) | (55.5)% | (38,727) | (87.6)% | (75,554) | (69.6)% | (99,550) | (67.2)% |
| Total Operating Profit | \$ 133,856 | 9.5% | \$ 131,081 | 9.1% | \$ 72,612 | 2.2% | \$ 105,088 | 3.1% |

The Company's consolidated operating profit increased \$2.8 million, or 2.1%, to an operating profit of \$133.9 million during the 13 weeks ended January 30, 2016 from an operating profit of \$131.1 million during the 13 weeks ended January 31, 2015. This increase was due to the matters discussed above.

The Company's consolidated operating profit decreased \$32.5 million, or 30.9%, to an operating profit of \$72.6 million during the 39 weeks ended January 30, 2016 from an operating profit of \$105.1 million during the 39 weeks ended January 31, 2015. This decrease was due to the matters discussed above.

Table of Contents*Interest Expense, Net and Amortization of Deferred Financing Fees*

| <i>Dollars in thousands</i> | 13 weeks ended | | | 39 weeks ended | | |
|---|------------------|------------------|-------------|------------------|------------------|-------------|
| | January 30, 2016 | January 31, 2015 | % of Change | January 30, 2016 | January 31, 2015 | % of Change |
| Interest Expense, Net and Amortization of Deferred Financing Fees | \$ 1,976 | \$ 3,521 | (43.9)% | \$ 7,233 | \$ 14,723 | (50.9)% |

Net interest expense and amortization of deferred financing fees decreased \$1.5 million, or 43.9%, to \$2.0 million during the 13 weeks ended January 30, 2016 from \$3.5 million from the same period one year ago. This decrease was primarily due to lower deferred financing costs.

Net interest expense and amortization of deferred financing fees decreased \$7.5 million, or 50.9%, to \$7.2 million during the 39 weeks ended January 30, 2016 from \$14.7 million from the same period one year ago. This decrease was primarily due to lower interest related to the repayment of the junior seller note in September 2014 and lower deferred financing fees.

Income Taxes

| <i>Dollars in thousands</i> | 13 weeks ended | | | | 39 weeks ended | | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|
| | January 30, 2016 | Effective Rate | January 31, 2015 | Effective Rate | January 30, 2016 | Effective Rate | January 31, 2015 | Effective Rate |
| Income Taxes | \$ 51,618 | 39.1% | \$ 88,583 | 69.4% | \$ 20,071 | 30.7% | \$ 54,474 | 60.3% |

The Company recorded an income tax provision of \$51.6 million during the 13 weeks ended January 30, 2016 compared with an income tax provision of \$88.6 million during the 13 weeks ended January 31, 2015. The Company's effective tax rate was 39.1% and 69.4% for the 13 weeks ended January 30, 2016 and January 31, 2015, respectively. In the current year, the Company no longer maintains a valuation allowance against its tax assets, except with respect to certain separate state income tax jurisdictions. In the prior year, the Company recorded the tax implications of the Microsoft agreement, which does not impact the current year provision as a result of the termination of the Microsoft agreement in December 2014.

The Company recorded an income tax provision of \$20.1 million during the 39 weeks ended January 30, 2016 compared with an income tax provision of \$54.5 million during the 39 weeks ended January 31, 2015. The Company's effective tax rate was 30.7% and 60.3% for the 39 weeks ended January 30, 2016 and January 31, 2015, respectively. The income tax provisions for the 39 weeks ended January 30, 2016 and January 31, 2015, respectively, include the impact of permanent items such as meals and entertainment, non-deductible executive compensation, changes in uncertain tax positions, finalization of the federal income tax audit covering the 2008 through 2012 tax years, the closure of many state taxing jurisdiction statutes, the impact of new legislation enacted by Congress permanently reinstating the research and development credit and the impact of filing the income tax returns. In the current year, the Company no longer maintains a valuation allowance against its tax assets, except with respect to certain separate state income tax jurisdictions. In the prior year, the Company recorded the tax implications of the Microsoft agreement, which do not impact the current year as a result of the termination of the Microsoft agreement in December 2014. In addition, the Company updates its tax rates on a quarterly basis, thus these rates are subject to quarter end adjustments.

Net Income from Continuing Operations

| <i>Dollars in thousands</i> | 13 weeks ended | | 39 weeks ended | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| | January 30, 2016 | January 31, 2015 | January 30, 2016 | January 31, 2015 |
| Net Income from Continuing Operations | \$ 80,262 | \$ 38,977 | \$ 45,308 | \$ 35,891 |

As a result of the factors discussed above, the Company reported consolidated net income from continuing operations of \$80.3 million during the 13 weeks ended January 30, 2016, compared with consolidated net income from continuing operations of \$39.0 million during the 13 weeks ended January 31, 2015.

As a result of the factors discussed above, the Company reported consolidated net income from continuing operations of \$45.3 million during the 39 weeks ended January 30, 2016, compared with consolidated net income from continuing operations of \$35.9 million during the 39 weeks ended January 31, 2015.

Table of Contents*Net Income (Loss) from Discontinued Operations*

| <i>Dollars in thousands</i> | 13 weeks ended | | 39 weeks ended | |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| | January 30, 2016 | January 31, 2015 | January 30, 2016 | January 31, 2015 |
| Net Income (Loss) from Discontinued Operations | \$ | \$ 33,191 | \$ (39,146) | \$ 20,126 |

The Company has recognized the separation of B&N Education in accordance with ASC 205-20, *Discontinued Operations*. As such, the historical results of Barnes & Noble Education for the 13 and 39 weeks ended January 31, 2015 have been adjusted to include pre-spin B&N Education results and separation-related costs and exclude corporate allocations with B&N Retail, and have been classified as discontinued operations. Additionally, discontinued operations in the 39 weeks ended January 30, 2016 include investment banking fees (as they directly relate to the Spin-Off), as well as pre-spin B&N Education results and separation-related costs and exclude corporate allocation adjustments with B&N Retail.

Net Income

| <i>Dollars in thousands</i> | 13 weeks ended | | 39 weeks ended | |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| | January 30, 2016 | January 31, 2015 | January 30, 2016 | January 31, 2015 |
| Net Income Attributable to Barnes & Noble, Inc. | \$ 80,262 | \$ 72,168 | \$ 6,162 | \$ 56,017 |

As a result of the factors discussed above, the Company reported consolidated net income of \$80.3 million during the 13 weeks ended January 30, 2016, compared with consolidated net income of \$72.2 million during the 13 weeks ended January 31, 2015.

As a result of the factors discussed above, the Company reported consolidated net income of \$6.2 million during the 39 weeks ended January 30, 2016, compared with consolidated net income of \$56.0 million during the 39 weeks ended January 31, 2015.

Critical Accounting Policies

During the third quarter of fiscal 2016, there were no changes in the Company's policies regarding the use of estimates and other critical accounting policies. See Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, found in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended May 2, 2015 for additional information relating to the Company's use of estimates and other critical accounting policies.

Disclosure Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

This quarterly report on Form 10-Q contains certain forward-looking statements (within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended) and information relating to Barnes & Noble that are based on the beliefs of the management of Barnes & Noble as well as assumptions made by and information currently available to the management of Barnes & Noble. When used in this communication, the words anticipate, believe, estimate, expect, intend, plan, will, forecasts, projections, expressions, as they relate to Barnes & Noble or the management of Barnes & Noble, identify forward-looking statements.

Such statements reflect the current views of Barnes & Noble with respect to future events, the outcome of which is subject to certain risks, including, among others, the general economic environment and consumer spending patterns, decreased consumer demand for Barnes & Noble's products, low growth or declining sales and net income due to various factors, including store closings, higher-than-anticipated or increasing costs, including with respect to store closings, relocation, occupancy (including in connection with lease renewals) and labor costs, the effects of competition, the risk of insufficient access to financing to implement future business initiatives, risks associated with data privacy and information security, risks associated with Barnes & Noble's supply chain, including possible delays and disruptions and increases in shipping rates, various risks associated with the digital business, including the possible loss of customers, declines in digital content sales, risks and costs associated with ongoing efforts to rationalize the digital business and the digital business not being able to perform its obligations under the Samsung commercial agreement and the consequences thereof, the risk that financial and operational forecasts and projections are not achieved, the performance of Barnes & Noble's online and other initiatives, effects on Barnes & Noble and its remaining businesses resulting from the separation of Barnes & Noble Education, unanticipated adverse litigation results or effects, potential infringement of Barnes & Noble's intellectual property by third parties or by Barnes & Noble of the intellectual property of third parties, and other factors, including those factors discussed in detail in Item 1A, Risk Factors, in Barnes & Noble's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended May 2, 2015, and in Barnes & Noble's other filings made hereafter from time to time with the SEC.

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Should one or more of these risks or uncertainties materialize, or should underlying assumptions prove incorrect, actual results or outcomes may vary materially from those described as anticipated, believed, estimated, expected, intended or planned. Subsequent written and oral forward-looking statements attributable to Barnes & Noble or persons acting on its behalf are expressly qualified in their entirety by the cautionary statements in this paragraph. Barnes & Noble undertakes no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise after the date of this Form 10-Q.

Item 3: Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

The Company limits its interest rate risks by investing certain of its excess cash balances in short-term, highly-liquid instruments with an original maturity of one year or less. The Company does not expect any material losses from its invested cash balances and the Company believes that its interest rate exposure is modest. As of January 30, 2016, the Company's cash and cash equivalents totaled approximately \$63.6 million. A 50 basis point increase in annual interest rates would have increased the Company's interest income by \$0.0 million in the third quarter of fiscal 2016. Conversely, a 50 basis point decrease in annual interest rates would have reduced interest income by \$0.0 million in the third quarter of fiscal 2016.

Additionally, the Company may from time to time borrow money under its credit facility at various interest rate options based on the Base Rate or LIBO Rate (each term as defined in the amended and restated credit agreement described in the Quarterly Report under the section titled "Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements") depending upon certain financial tests. Accordingly, the Company may be exposed to interest rate risk on borrowings under its credit facility. The Company had no borrowings under its new credit facility at January 30, 2016 and no borrowings under its previous credit facility at January 31, 2015. A 50 basis point increase in annual interest rates would have increased the Company's interest expense by \$0.2 million in the third quarter of fiscal 2016. Conversely, a 50 basis point decrease in annual interest rates would have reduced interest expense by \$0.2 million in the third quarter of fiscal 2016.

The Company does not have any material foreign currency exposure as nearly all of its business is transacted in United States currency.

Item 4: Controls and Procedures

Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures

The management of the Company established and maintains disclosure controls and procedures that are designed to ensure that material information relating to the Company and its subsidiaries required to be disclosed in the reports that are filed or submitted under the Exchange Act are recorded, processed, summarized, and reported within the time periods specified in the SEC's rules and forms, and that such information is accumulated and communicated to management, including the Company's Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosures. As of the end of the period covered by this report, the Company's management conducted an evaluation (as required under Rules 13a-15(b) and 15d-15(b) under the Exchange Act), under the supervision and with the participation of the principal executive officer and principal financial officer, of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures (as such term is defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Exchange Act). A control system, no matter how well designed and operated, can provide only reasonable, not absolute, assurance that it will detect or uncover failures within the Company to disclose material information otherwise required to be set forth in the Company's periodic reports.

Based on management's evaluation, the principal executive officer and principal financial officer concluded that, as of the end of the period covered by this report, the Company's disclosure controls and procedures are effective at the reasonable assurance level.

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PART II - OTHER INFORMATION

Item 1. Legal Proceedings

The Company is involved in a variety of claims, suits, investigations and proceedings that arise from time to time in the ordinary course of its business, including actions with respect to contracts, intellectual property, taxation, employment, benefits, securities, personal injuries and other matters. The results of these proceedings in the ordinary course of business are not expected to have a material adverse effect on the Company's consolidated financial position or results of operations.

The Company records a liability when it believes that it is both probable that a liability will be incurred, and the amount of loss can be reasonably estimated. The Company evaluates, at least quarterly, developments in its legal matters that could affect the amount of liability that has been previously accrued and makes adjustments as appropriate. Significant judgment is required to determine both probability and the estimated amount of a loss or potential loss. The Company may be unable to reasonably estimate the reasonably possible loss or range of loss for a particular legal contingency for various reasons, including, among others: (i) if the damages sought are indeterminate; (ii) if proceedings are in the early stages; (iii) if there is uncertainty as to the outcome of pending proceedings (including motions and appeals); (iv) if there is uncertainty as to the likelihood of settlement and the outcome of any negotiations with respect thereto; (v) if there are significant factual issues to be determined or resolved; (vi) if the proceedings involve a large number of parties; (vii) if relevant law is unsettled or novel or untested legal theories are presented; or (viii) if the proceedings are taking place in jurisdictions where the laws are complex or unclear. In such instances, there is considerable uncertainty regarding the ultimate resolution of such matters, including a possible eventual loss, if any.

Legal matters are inherently unpredictable and subject to significant uncertainties, some of which are beyond the Company's control. As such, there can be no assurance that the final outcome of these matters will not materially and adversely affect the Company's business, financial condition, results of operations, or cash flows.

Except as otherwise described below with respect to the *Adrea LLC* (Adrea) matter, the Company has determined that a loss is reasonably possible with respect to the matters described below. Based on its current knowledge the Company has determined that the amount of loss or range of loss, that is reasonably possible (or in the case of Adrea, probable), including any reasonably possible (or, in the case of Adrea, probable) losses in excess of amounts already accrued, is not estimable.

The following is a discussion of the material legal matters involving the Company.

Table of Contents***PIN Pad Litigation***

As previously disclosed, the Company discovered that PIN pads in certain of its stores had been tampered with to allow criminal access to card data and PIN numbers on credit and debit cards swiped through the terminals. Following public disclosure of this matter on October 24, 2012, the Company was served with four putative class action complaints (three in federal district court in the Northern District of Illinois and one in the Northern District of California), each of which alleged on behalf of national and other classes of customers who swiped credit and debit cards in Barnes & Noble Retail stores common law claims such as negligence, breach of contract and invasion of privacy, as well as statutory claims such as violations of the Fair Credit Reporting Act, state data breach notification statutes, and state unfair and deceptive practices statutes. The actions sought various forms of relief including damages, injunctive or equitable relief, multiple or punitive damages, attorneys' fees, costs, and interest. All four cases were transferred and/or assigned to a single judge in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, and a single consolidated amended complaint was filed. The Company filed a motion to dismiss the consolidated amended complaint in its entirety, and in September 2013, the Court granted the motion to dismiss without prejudice. The Plaintiffs then filed an amended complaint, and the Company filed a second motion to dismiss. That motion is pending.

Lina v. Barnes & Noble, Inc., and Barnes & Noble Booksellers, Inc. et al.

On August 5, 2011, a purported class action complaint was filed against Barnes & Noble, Inc. and Barnes & Noble Booksellers, Inc. in the Superior Court for the State of California making the following allegations with respect to salaried Store Managers at Barnes & Noble stores located in California from August 5, 2007 to present: (1) failure to pay wages and overtime; (2) failure to pay for missed meals and/or rest breaks; (3) waiting time penalties; (4) failure to pay minimum wage; (5) failure to reimburse for business expenses; and (6) failure to provide itemized wage statements. The claims are generally derivative of the allegation that these salaried managers were improperly classified as exempt from California's wage and hour laws. The complaint contains no allegations concerning the number of any such alleged violations or the amount of recovery sought on behalf of the purported class. The Company was served with the complaint on August 11, 2011. On July 1, 2014 the court denied plaintiff's motion for class certification. The court ruled that plaintiff failed to satisfy his burden to demonstrate common issues predominated over individual issues, that plaintiff was a sufficient class representative, or that a class action was a superior method to adjudicate plaintiff's claims. Plaintiff filed a notice of appeal on August 29, 2014. On November 18, 2014, the trial court stayed all proceedings pending appeal. The parties have subsequently executed a settlement agreement memorializing a non-material resolution of the matter and will be filing a dismissal of the matter with the court.

Jones et al v. Barnes & Noble, Inc., and Barnes & Noble Booksellers, Inc. et al.

On April 23, 2013, Kenneth Jones (Jones) filed a purported Private Attorney General Act action complaint against Barnes & Noble, Inc. and Barnes & Noble Booksellers, Inc. in the Superior Court for the State of California making the following allegations with respect to salaried Store Managers at Barnes & Noble stores located in California: (1) failure to pay wages and overtime; (2) failure to pay for missed meal and/or rest breaks; (3) waiting time penalties; (4) failure to pay minimum wage; (5) failure to provide reimbursement for business expenses; and (6) failure to provide itemized wage statements. The claims are generally derivative of the allegation that Jones and other aggrieved employees were improperly classified as exempt from California's wage and hour laws. The complaint contains no allegations concerning the number of any such alleged violations or the amount of recovery sought on behalf of the plaintiff or the purported aggrieved employees. On May 7, 2013, Judge Michael Johnson (before whom the Lina action is pending) ordered the Jones action related to the Lina action and assigned the Jones action to himself. The Company was served with the complaint on May 16, 2013 and answered on June 10, 2013. On November 18, 2014,

the court stayed all proceedings pending appeal in the related Lina action. The parties have subsequently executed a settlement agreement memorializing a non-material resolution of the matter and will be filing a dismissal of the matter with the court.

Cassandra Carag individually and on behalf of others similarly situated v. Barnes & Noble, Inc., Barnes & Noble Booksellers, Inc. and DOES 1 through 100 inclusive

On November 27, 2013, former Associate Store Manager Cassandra Carag (Carag) brought suit in Sacramento County Superior Court, asserting claims on behalf of herself and all other hourly (non-exempt) Barnes & Noble employees in California in the preceding four years for unpaid regular and overtime wages based on alleged off-the-clock work, penalties and pay based on missed meal and rest breaks, and for improper wage statements, payroll records, and untimely pay at separation as a result of the alleged pay errors during employment. Via the complaint, Carag seeks to recover unpaid wages and statutory penalties for all hourly Barnes & Noble employees within California from November 27, 2009 to present. On February 13, 2014, the Company filed an Answer in the state court and concurrently requested removal of the action to federal court. On May 30, 2014, the federal court granted Plaintiff's motion to remand the case to state court and denied Plaintiff's motion to strike portions of the Answer to the Complaint (referring the latter motion to the lower court for future consideration).

Adrea LLC v. Barnes & Noble, Inc., barnesandnoble.com llc and Nook Media LLC

With respect to the *Adrea* matter described herein, the Company has determined, based on its current knowledge, that a loss is probable.

On June 14, 2013, Adrea filed a complaint against Barnes & Noble, Inc., NOOK Digital, LLC (formerly barnesandnoble.com llc) and B&N Education, LLC (formerly NOOK Media LLC) (B&N) in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York alleging that various B&N NOOK products and related online services infringe U.S. Patent Nos. 7,298,851 (851 patent), 7,299,501 (501 patent) and 7,620,703 (703 patent). B&N filed its Answer on August 9, 2013, denying infringement and asserting several affirmative defenses. At the same time, B&N filed counterclaims seeking declaratory judgments of non-infringement and invalidity with respect to each of the patents-in-suit. On July 1, 2014, the Court issued a decision granting partial summary judgment in B&N's favor, and in particular granting B&N's motion to dismiss one of Adrea's infringement claims, and granting B&N's motion to limit any damages award with respect to another of Adrea's infringement claims.

Beginning October 7, 2014, through and including October 22, 2014, the case was tried to a jury in the Southern District of New York. The jury returned its verdict on October 27, 2014. The jury found no infringement with respect to the 851 patent, and infringement with respect to the 501 and 703 patents. It awarded damages in the amount of \$1.3 million. The jury further found no willful infringement with respect to any patent.

On July 24, 2015, the Court granted B&N's post trial application to invalidate one of the two patents (the 501 Patent) the jury found to have been infringed. On September 28, 2015, the Court heard post-trial motions on the jury's infringement and validity determinations, and on February 24, 2016, it issued a decision upholding the jury's determination of infringement and validity with respect to the 703 patent. Accordingly, the Court has now ordered a new trial on damages with respect to 703 patent, since the original damages award was a total award for both patents. The date of such trial, and the scope of any damage claims the Court may permit the jury to consider with respect to the 703 patent, are to be determined by the Court in due course.

Table of Contents**Item 1A. Risk Factors**

Other than the fact that the risks related to Barnes & Noble College are no longer applicable as a result of the separation of Barnes & Noble Education, Inc. from the Company completed on August 2, 2015, there have been no material changes to the risk factors disclosed in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended May 2, 2015.

Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds**Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities**

The following table provides information with respect to purchases by the Company of shares of its common stock:

| Period | Total Number of Shares Purchased (a) | Average Price Paid per Share | Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs | Approximate Dollar Value of Shares That May Yet Be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|---|---|
| November 1, 2015 – November 28, 2015 | 717 | \$ 12.99 | | \$ 50,000,000 |
| November 29, 2015 – January 2, 2016 | 1,438,511 | \$ 9.35 | 1,408,062 | \$ 36,844,290 |
| January 3, 2016 – January 30, 2016 | 396,833 | \$ 8.53 | 390,900 | \$ 33,511,200 |
| Total | 1,836,061 | \$ 9.17 | 1,798,962 | |

- (a) The shares on this table above include 1,798,962 shares repurchased under the Company's stock repurchase program, as well as 37,099 shares relinquished by employees in exchange for the Company's agreement to pay federal and state withholding obligations resulting from the vesting of the Company's restricted stock and restricted stock units, which are not drawn against the Company's stock repurchase program. All of the restricted stock and restricted stock units vested during these periods were originally granted pursuant to the Company's 2009 Amended and Restated Incentive Plan. This Incentive Plan provides for the withholding of shares to satisfy tax obligations due upon the vesting of restricted stock or restricted stock units.

On October 20, 2015, the Company's Board of Directors authorized a new stock repurchase program of up to \$50.0 million of its common shares. Stock repurchases under this program may be made through open market and privately negotiated transactions from time to time and in such amounts as management deems appropriate. The repurchase program has no expiration date and may be suspended or discontinued at any time. The Company's repurchase plan intends to comply with the requirements of Rule 10b5-1 and Rule 10b-18 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. The maximum dollar value of common stock that may yet be purchased under this program is approximately \$33.5 million as of January 30, 2016. As of January 30, 2016, the Company has repurchased 36,797,336 shares at a cost of approximately \$1.08 billion since the inception of the Company's stock repurchase programs. The repurchased shares are held in treasury.

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Item 6. Exhibits

Exhibits filed with this Form 10-Q:

| | |
|---------|---|
| 31.1 | Certification by the Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a)/15(d)-14(a) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. |
| 31.2 | Certification by the Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a)/15(d)-14(a) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. |
| 32.1 | Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Rule 13a-14(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. |
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| 101.INS | XBRL Instance Document |
| 101.SCH | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document |
| 101.CAL | XBRL Taxonomy Calculation Linkbase Document |
| 101.DEF | XBRL Taxonomy Definition Linkbase Document |
| 101.LAB | XBRL Taxonomy Label Linkbase Document |
| 101.PRE | XBRL Taxonomy Presentation Linkbase Document |

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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.

BARNES & NOBLE, INC.

(Registrant)

By: /s/ ALLEN W. LINDSTROM

Allen W. Lindstrom

Chief Financial Officer

(principal financial officer)

By: /s/ PETER M. HERPICH

Peter M. Herpich

Vice President and Corporate Controller

(principal accounting officer)

March 4, 2016

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EXHIBIT INDEX

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