NORDSTROM INC Form 10-K March 21, 2008

# **UNITED STATES** SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549 **FORM 10-K**

(Mark One)

0

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

For the fiscal year ended February 2, 2008

OR

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

For the transition period from \_\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Commission file number 001-15059

### NORDSTROM, INC.

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

Washington

91-0515058

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

(IRS employer Identification No.)

### 1617 Sixth Avenue, Seattle, Washington

98101

(Address of principal executive offices)

(Zip code)

Registrant s telephone number, including area code: 206-628-2111 Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class

Name of each exchange on which registered

# Common stock, without par value

**New York Stock Exchange** Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: None

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

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

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 b NO o Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of registrant s knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K. b

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 definition of large accelerated filer, accelerated filer and smaller reporting company in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act (Check one):

Large accelerated Smaller reporting Accelerated filer o Non-accelerated filer o filer b company o

(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Act). YES o NO be As of August 3, 2007 the aggregate market value of the Registrant is voting and non-voting stock held by non-affiliates of the Registrant was approximately \$8.9 billion using the closing sales price on that day of \$46.07. On March 14, 2008, 219 shares of common stock were outstanding (in millions).

# DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

Portions of the Proxy Statement for the 2008 Annual Meeting of Shareholders scheduled to be held on May 20, 2008 are incorporated into Part III

Nordstrom, Inc. and subsidiaries 1

[This page intentionally left blank.]

2

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

		Page
PART I		
<u>Item 1.</u>	Business.	4
Item 1A.	Risk Factors.	6
	<u>Unresolved Staff Comments.</u>	8
<u>Item 2.</u>	<u>Properties.</u>	8
<u>Item 3.</u>	<u>Legal Proceedings.</u>	12
<u>Item 4.</u>	Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders.	12
<b>PART</b>		
<u>II</u>		
<u>Item 5.</u>	Market for Registrant s Common Equity, Related Shareholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities.	12
Item 6.	Selected Financial Data.	14
Item 7.	Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.	15
	Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk.	32
Item 8.	Financial Statements and Supplementary Data.	33
Item 9.	Changes in and Disagreements With Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure.	61
	Controls and Procedures.	61
	Other Information.	61
<u>PART</u>		
III		
	Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance of the Registrant.	61
	Executive Compensation.	61
	Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Shareholder Matters.	62
	•	
	Certain Relationships and Related Transactions.	62
<u>Item 14.</u>	Principal Accountant Fees and Services.	62
PART		
<u>IV</u>		
<u>Item 15.</u>	Exhibits, Financial Statement Schedules.	62
Signatur	<u>'es</u>	63
<b>Consent</b>	of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm	64
<b>Schedule</b>	e II Valuation and Qualifying Accounts	65
Exhibit 1	<u>Index</u>	66
<b>EXHIBIT</b>		
EXHIBIT		
EXHIBIT		
EXHIBIT EXHIBIT		
EXHIBIT		
EXHIBIT		
<b>EXHIBIT</b>		
EXHIBIT		
EXHIBIT		
EXHIBIT EXHIBIT		
EXHIBIT		

**EXHIBIT 10.56** 

EXHIBIT 10.30 EXHIBIT 21.1 EXHIBIT 31.1 EXHIBIT 31.2 EXHIBIT 32.1

Nordstrom, Inc. and subsidiaries 3

### PART I

# Item 1. Business. DESCRIPTION OF BUSINESS

Nordstrom incorporated in the state of Washington in 1946 as the successor to a retail shoe business that started in 1901. We are one of the nation s leading fashion specialty retailers, with 157 U.S. stores located in 28 states. The west coast and east coast are the areas in which we have the largest presence. Nordstrom is comprised of four segments: Retail Stores, Direct, Credit, and Other.

Retail Stores derives its revenues from sales of designer, luxury and high-quality apparel, shoes, cosmetics and accessories. It includes our 103 Nordstrom full-line stores, 50 discount Nordstrom Rack stores, two Jeffrey boutiques, and two clearance stores that operate under the name Last Chance. The Nordstrom Rack stores purchase merchandise directly from manufacturers and also serve as outlets for clearance merchandise from our full-line stores.

In 2007, we opened three full-line stores (Natick, Massachusetts; Novi, Michigan; and Denver, Colorado), opened one Rack store (Tukwila, Washington), and increased our ownership in two Jeffrey boutiques (Atlanta, Georgia and New York, New York). We also sold our four U.S. Façonnable boutiques (Los Angeles, California; Costa Mesa, California; New York, New York; and Miami, Florida), and our 37 international Façonnable boutiques. To date in 2008, we have opened two full-line stores (Aventura, Florida and Honolulu, Hawaii) and closed one free-standing shoe store (Honolulu, Hawaii). We are scheduled to open six more full-line stores (Burlington, Massachusetts; Clinton Township, Michigan; Thousand Oaks, California; Indianapolis, Indiana; Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; and Naples, Florida), relocate one full-line store (Tacoma, Washington) and open three Rack stores (Naperville, Illinois; Laguna Hills, California; and Danvers, Massachusetts). In 2009, we are scheduled to open five full-line stores, relocate one full-line store and open two Rack stores.

**Direct** generates revenues from sales of designer, luxury and high-quality apparel, shoes, cosmetics and accessories by serving our customers on the internet at www.nordstrom.com and through our catalogs. Direct segment s sales are primarily shipped via third-party carriers from our fulfillment center in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Through our wholly owned federal savings bank, Nordstrom fsb, we offer a private label card, two co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit cards and a debit card for Nordstrom purchases. The credit and debit cards feature a shopping-based loyalty program designed to increase customer visits and spending in our Retail Stores and Direct segments. Our **Credit** segment generates income through finance charges and fees on these cards.

Our **Other** segment includes our product development team, called Nordstrom Product Group, which designs and coordinates the production of private label merchandise sold in our Retail Stores and Direct. In addition, this segment includes our corporate center operations. Until the sale of Façonnable in the third quarter of 2007, the Other segment also included our four U.S. Façonnable boutiques and the 37 Façonnable boutiques located in France, Portugal and Belgium. Façonnable is a wholesaler and retailer of high quality men s, women s and boys apparel and accessories with distribution to over 45 countries. Façonnable has licensee and franchisee agreements with others who operate wholesale distribution and/or boutique locations in Spain, Turkey, Greece, the Middle East, Taiwan, Canada and Latin America. We sold the Façonnable business in the third quarter of 2007. See Note 2 of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 for further discussion.

For more information about our business and our reportable segments, see Item 7, Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations on page 15 and Note 16 of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8.

### FISCAL YEAR END

Our fiscal year ends on the Saturday closest to January 31st. References to 2007 relate to the 52-week fiscal year ended February 2, 2008. References to 2006 and 2005 relate to the 53-week fiscal year ended February 3, 2007 and 52-week fiscal year ended January 28, 2006. References to 2008 relate to the 52 weeks ending January 31, 2009.

## **TRADEMARKS**

We have approximately 144 registered trademarks or trademark applications. Our most notable trademarks include Nordstrom, Nordstrom Rack, John W. Nordstrom, Caslon, and Classiques Entier. Each of our trademarks is renewable indefinitely provided that it is still used in commerce at the time of the renewal.

### RETURN POLICY

We offer our customers a fair and liberal return policy at our full-line stores and Nordstrom Direct (online and catalog). Our Nordstrom Rack stores accept returns up to 30 days from the date of purchase. In general, our return policy is somewhat more generous than industry standards. We utilize historical return patterns to estimate our expected returns.

### **SEASONALITY**

Due to our anniversary sale in July and the holidays in December, sales are higher for our Retail Stores and Direct in the second and fourth quarters of the fiscal year than in the first and third quarters.

### **INVENTORY**

We plan our merchandise purchases and receipts to coincide with the selling patterns that we expect. For instance, we purchase and receive a larger amount of merchandise in the fall as we prepare for the holiday shopping season (from late November through early January). Also, our merchandise purchases and receipts increase prior to our Anniversary Sale, which extends over the last two weeks of July. We pay for our merchandise purchases under the terms established with our vendors, which is usually within 30 days of the date that the merchandise was shipped to us.

### **Table of Contents**

In order to offer merchandise that our customers want, we purchase merchandise from a wide variety of high-quality suppliers. We also have arrangements with agents and contract manufacturers to produce our private label merchandise. Our suppliers include domestic and foreign businesses. We expect our suppliers to meet our Nordstrom Partnership: Standards and Business Practice Guidelines, which address our standards for matters such as law, labor, health and safety, and environment.

### **COMPETITIVE CONDITIONS**

Our business is highly competitive. Each of our stores competes with other national, regional and local retail establishments that may carry similar lines of merchandise, including department stores, specialty stores, boutiques, mail order and Internet businesses. Our specific competitors vary from market to market. We believe the principal methods of competing in our industry include customer service, fashion, quality of product, depth of selection, store environment and location.

### **EMPLOYEES**

During 2007, we regularly employed on a full or part-time basis approximately 55,000 employees. Due to the seasonal nature of our business, employment increased to approximately 58,500 employees in July 2007 and 56,500 in December 2007.

### **CAUTIONARY STATEMENT**

Certain statements in this Annual Report on Form 10-K contain forward-looking statements (as defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995) that involve risks and uncertainties, including anticipated results, planned store openings, capital expenditures, and trends in our operations. Actual future results and trends may differ materially from historical results or current expectations depending upon various factors including those discussed below and elsewhere in this Annual Report on Form 10-K, particularly in Item 1A under the heading Risk Factors. These factors include our ability to respond to the business environment and fashion trends, effective inventory management, the impact of economic and competitive market forces, successful execution of our store growth strategy including the timely completion of construction associated with newly planned stores, relocations and remodels, our compliance with information security and privacy laws and regulations, employment laws and regulations and other laws and regulations applicable to the company, successful execution of our multi-channel strategy, our ability to safeguard our brand and reputation, efficient and proper allocation of our capital resources, successful execution of our technology strategy, the impact of terrorist activity or war on our customers and the retail industry, trends in personal bankruptcies and bad debt write-offs, changes in interest rates, our ability to maintain our relationships with our employees, our ability to control costs, weather conditions and hazards of nature that affect consumer traffic and consumers purchasing patterns, and the timing and amounts of share repurchases by the company. These and other factors could affect our financial results and cause actual results to differ materially from those contained in any forward-looking statements we may make. As a result, while we believe there is a reasonable basis for the forward-looking statements, you should not place undue reliance on those statements. We undertake no obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements to reflect subsequent events, new information or future circumstances.

### **SEC FILINGS**

We file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other documents with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). All material we file with the SEC is publicly available at the SEC s Public Reference Room at 450 Fifth Street, NW, Washington, DC 20549. You may obtain information on the operation of the Public Reference Room by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. In addition, the SEC maintains an Internet Web site at www.sec.gov that contains reports, proxy and information statements, and other information regarding issuers that file electronically with the SEC.

### WEB SITE ACCESS

Our Internet Web site address is www.nordstrom.com. We make available free of charge on or through our Internet Web site our annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K, statements of changes in beneficial ownership of securities on Form 4 and amendments to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Exchange Act as soon as reasonably practicable after we electronically file the report with or furnish it to the SEC. Interested parties may also access a webcast of quarterly earnings conference

calls and other financial events over our Internet Web site.

### **CORPORATE GOVERNANCE**

We have a long-standing commitment to upholding a high level of ethical standards. In addition, as required by the listing standards of the New York Stock Exchange ( NYSE ) and the rules of the SEC, we have adopted Codes of Business Conduct and Ethics for our employees, officers and directors ( Codes of Ethics ) and Corporate Governance Guidelines. We have posted on our Web site our Codes of Ethics, our Corporate Governance Guidelines, and our Committee Charters for the Audit, Compensation, Corporate Governance and Nominating, Executive, and Finance committees. These items are also available in print to any person without charge upon request to:

Nordstrom, Inc. Investor Relations P.O. Box 2737 Seattle, Washington 98111 (206) 303-3200 invrelations@nordstrom.com

Nordstrom, Inc. and subsidiaries 5

#### **Table of Contents**

### Item 1A. Risk Factors.

(Dollars in millions)

Our business faces many risks. We believe the risks described below outline the items of most concern to us. However, these risks are not the only ones we face. Additional risks and uncertainties, not presently known to us or that we currently deem immaterial, may also impair our business operations.

### ABILITY TO RESPOND TO THE BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT AND FASHION TRENDS

Our sales and operating results depend in part on our ability to predict or respond to changes in fashion trends and consumer preferences in a timely manner and to match our merchandise mix to prevailing consumer tastes. Any sustained failure to identify and respond to emerging trends in lifestyle and consumer preferences could force us to sell our merchandise at higher average markdown levels and lower average margins, which could have a material adverse affect on our business. In addition, consumer spending at our stores may be affected by many factors outside of our control, including consumer confidence, weather and other hazards of nature that affect consumer traffic, and general economic conditions.

### INVENTORY MANAGEMENT

We strive to ensure the merchandise we offer remains fresh and compelling to our customers. If we are not successful at predicting our sales trends and adjusting our purchases accordingly, we may have excess inventory, which would result in additional markdowns and reduce our operating performance. This could have an adverse effect on margins and operating income.

# IMPACT OF COMPETITIVE MARKET FORCES

The retail industry environment continues to change for many of our vendors and customers. In the future, our competition may partner more effectively with vendors to serve the market s needs. If we do not effectively respond to changes in our environment, we may see a loss of market share to competitors, declining same-store sales, and declining profitability due to higher markdowns.

### STORE GROWTH PLAN

As of February 2008, our five-year strategic growth plan includes opening 31 new or relocated full-line stores and remodeling 29 existing full-line stores. We compete with other retailers and businesses for suitable locations for our stores. Local land use and other regulations may impact our ability to find suitable locations. New store openings also involve certain risks, including constructing, furnishing and supplying a store in a timely and cost effective manner and accurately assessing the demographic or retail environment for a particular location. Our future sales at new, relocated or remodeled stores may not meet our projections, which could adversely impact our return on investment. Performance in our new stores could also be negatively impacted by our inability to hire employees who are able to deliver the level of service our customers have come to expect when shopping at our stores. In the past, our expected operating dates have sometimes been delayed because of developer plan delays. Our inability to execute our store growth strategy in a manner that generates appropriate returns on investment could have an adverse impact on our future growth and profitability.

# **BANKING OPERATIONS**

Our credit card operations, conducted through our federal thrift subsidiary, facilitate sales in our stores, allow our stores to avoid third-party transaction fees and generate additional revenues by extending credit. Our finance charge revenue is subject to changes in interest rates which fluctuate based on market conditions. The market conditions influencing interest rates are based on economic factors that are beyond our control and include, but are not limited to, recession, inflation, deflation, consumer credit availability, consumer debt levels, tax rates and policy, unemployment trends and other matters that influence consumer confidence and spending. Our ability to extend credit to our customers and to collect payments from them depends on many factors including compliance with applicable laws and regulations, any of which may change from time to time. Changes in credit card use, payment patterns and default rates may result from a variety of economic, legal, social and other factors that we cannot control or predict with certainty. Changes that adversely impact our ability to extend credit and collect payments could negatively affect our results.

### INFORMATION SECURITY AND PRIVACY

The protection of our customer, employee, and company data is critical to us. The regulatory environment surrounding

information security and privacy is increasingly demanding, with the frequent imposition of new and constantly changing requirements across our business units. In addition, our customers have a high expectation that we will adequately protect their personal information. A significant breach of customer, employee or company data could damage our reputation and result in lost sales, fines and lawsuits.

### LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT AND SUCCESSION PLANNING

The training and development of our future leaders is critical to our long-term growth. If we do not effectively implement our strategic and business planning processes to train and develop future leaders, our long-term growth may suffer. In addition, if unexpected leadership turnover occurs without established succession plans, our business may suffer.

### MULTI-CHANNEL STRATEGY EXECUTION

In 2005, we started to make changes in our Direct business that better align our online shopping environment and catalog with the customer experience in our full-line stores. These changes included: aligning our Direct merchandise offering with our full-line stores to create a seamless experience for our customers between our stores, catalogs and Web site, linking the full-line stores and Direct merchandise organizations; reducing the number and frequency of our Direct catalog mailings; and transitioning our Direct inventory system onto our full-line store platform. Our inability to successfully execute this strategy could impact our future operating performance.

# **BRAND AND REPUTATION**

We have a well-recognized brand that is synonymous with the highest level of customer service and quality merchandise. Any significant damage to our brand or reputation may negatively impact same-store sales, lower employee morale and productivity, and diminish customer trust, resulting in a reduction in shareholder value.

# CAPITAL EFFICIENCY AND PROPER ALLOCATION

Our goal is to invest capital to maximize our overall long-term returns. This includes spending on inventory, capital projects and expenses, managing debt levels, managing accounts receivable through our credit business, and returning value to our shareholders through dividends and share repurchases. To a large degree, capital efficiency reflects how well we manage the other key risks to our Company. The actions taken to address other specific risks may affect how well we manage the more general risk of capital efficiency. If we do not properly allocate our capital to maximize returns, we may fail to produce financial results that our shareholders have come to expect and we may experience a reduction in shareholder value.

### **HUMAN RESOURCE REGULATIONS**

Our policies and procedures are designed to comply with human resource laws such as wage and hour, meal and rest period, and commissions. Federal and state wage and hour laws are complex, and the related enforcement is increasingly aggressive, particularly in the state of California. Failure to comply with these laws could result in damage to our reputation, class action lawsuits and dissatisfied employees.

# EMPLOYMENT AND DISCRIMINATION LAWS

State and federal employment and discrimination laws and the related case law continue to evolve, making ongoing compliance in this area a challenge. Failure to comply with these laws may result in damage to our reputation, legal and settlement costs, disruption of our business, and loss of customers and employees, which would result in a loss of sales, increased employment costs, low employee morale and attendant harm to our business and results of operations.

### **TECHNOLOGY**

We make investments in information technology to sustain our competitive position. We expect our combined capitalized and expense spend to be approximately \$180 each year on information technology operations and system development, which is key to our growth. We must monitor and choose the right investments and implement them at the right pace. Targeting the wrong opportunities, failing to make the best investment, or making an investment commitment significantly above or below the requirements of the business opportunity may result in the loss of our competitive position. In addition, an inadequate investment in maintaining our current systems may result in a loss of system functionality and increased future costs to bring our systems up to date.

We may implement too much technology, or change too fast, which could result in failure to adopt the new technology if the business is not ready or capable of accepting it. Excessive technological change affects the effectiveness of adoption, and could adversely affect the realization of benefits from the technology. However, not implementing enough technology could compromise our competitive position.

# DISTRIBUTION AND FULFILLMENT CENTERS

We depend on the orderly operation of the receiving and distribution process, which depends, in turn, on adherence to shipping schedules and effective management of our six distribution centers and our Direct fulfillment center. Although we believe that our receiving and distribution process is efficient, unforeseen disruptions in operations due to fires, hurricanes or other catastrophic events, labor disagreements or shipping problems, may result in delays in the delivery of merchandise to our stores and our customers. Although we maintain business interruption and property insurance, management cannot be assured that our insurance coverage will be sufficient, or that insurance proceeds will be timely paid to us, if any of the distribution centers are shut down for any reason.

# FOREIGN CURRENCY

We purchase a portion of our inventory from foreign suppliers whose cost to us is affected by the fluctuation of their local currency against the dollar or who price their merchandise in currencies other than the dollar. We source goods from numerous countries and thus are affected by changes in numerous currencies and generally, by fluctuations in the U.S. dollar relative to such currencies. Accordingly, changes in the value of the dollar relative to foreign currencies may increase our cost of goods sold and if we are unable to pass such cost increases on to our customers, our gross margins, and ultimately our earnings, would decrease. Foreign currency fluctuations could have a material adverse

effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations in the future.

### **SEASONALITY**

Our business is seasonal in nature. Due to our anniversary sale in July and the holidays in December, sales are higher for our Retail Stores in the second and fourth quarters of the fiscal year than in the first and third quarters. Accordingly, our results may vary considerably from quarter to quarter. In addition, we have significant additional cash requirements in the period leading up to the months of November and December in anticipation of higher sales volume in those months, including expenses for additional inventory, advertising and employees.

### REGULATORY COMPLIANCE

Our policies and procedures are designed to comply with all applicable laws and regulations, including those imposed by the SEC, NYSE, the banking industry and foreign countries. Additional legal and regulatory requirements, such as those arising under the Sarbanes-Oxley Act and the fact that foreign laws occasionally conflict with domestic laws, have increased the complexity of the regulatory environment and the cost of compliance. Failure to comply with the various regulations may result in damage to our reputation, civil and criminal liability, fines and penalties, increased cost of regulatory compliance and restatements of our financial statements.

Nordstrom, Inc. and subsidiaries 7

# ANTI-TAKEOVER PROVISIONS

We are incorporated in the state of Washington and subject to Washington state law. Some provisions of Washington state law could interfere with or restrict takeover bids or other change-in-control events affecting us. For example, one statutory provision prohibits us, except under specified circumstances, from engaging in any significant business transaction with any shareholder who owns 10% or more of our common stock (which shareholder, under the statute, would be considered an acquiring person ) for a period of five years following the time that such shareholder became an acquiring person.

# Item 1B. Unresolved Staff Comments.

None.

# Item 2. Properties.

The following table summarizes the number of retail stores owned or leased by us, and the percentage of total store square footage represented by each listed category at February 2, 2008:

	Number of Stores	% of total store square footage
Owned stores	33	25.7%
Owned on leased land	47	43.9%
Leased stores	74	28.9%
Partly owned and partly leased	2	1.5%
Total	156	100.0%

We also own six merchandise distribution centers located in Portland, Oregon; Dubuque, Iowa; Ontario, California; Newark, California; Upper Marlboro, Maryland; and Gainesville, Florida, which are utilized by the Retail Stores segment. The Direct segment utilizes one fulfillment center in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, which is owned on leased land. Our administrative offices in Seattle, Washington are a combination of leased and owned space. We also lease an office building in the Denver, Colorado metropolitan area that serves as an office of Nordstrom fsb and Nordstrom Credit, Inc.

8

# **Table of Contents**

[This page intentionally left blank.]

Nordstrom, Inc. and subsidiaries 9

# **Table of Contents**

The following table lists our retail store facilities as of February 2, 2008:

Location	Store Name	Square Footage0	Year Store pened	Location	Store Name	Square Footage(	Year Store Opened
Full-Line Stores							
ALASKA				ILLINOIS			
Anchorage	Anchorage 5 <sup>th</sup> Avenue Mall	97,000	1975	Chicago Oak Brook	Michigan Avenue Oakbrook	274,000	2000
				Schaumburg	Center Woodfield	249,000	1991
ARIZONA	Chandler Fashion Center			Skokie	Shopping Center Old Orchard	215,000	1995
Chandler Scottsdale	Scottsdale Fashion Square	149,000 235,000	2001 1998		Center	209,000	1994
CALIFORNIA				INDIANA Indianapolis	Circle Centre	216,000	1995
Arcadia Brea	Santa Anita Brea Mall	151,000 195,000	1994 1979 <sub>1</sub>	KANSAS			
Canoga Park	Topanga	213,000	19841	Overland Park	Oak Park Mall	219,000	1998
Cerritos Corte Madera	Los Cerritos Center The Village at Corte Madera	122,000 116,000	1981 1985	MARYLAND	A 1'		
Costa Mesa	South Coast Plaza  North County	235,000	19781	Annapolis Bethesda	Annapolis Mall Montgomery	162,000	1994
Escondido	Glendale Galleria	156,000	1986	Columbia	Mall The Mall in	225,000	1991
Glendale	Irvine Spectrum Center	147,000	1983	Towson	Columbia Towson	173,000	1999
Irvine Los Angeles	The Grove	130,000 120,000	2005 2002		Town Center	205,000	1992
Los Angeles	Westside Pavilion The Shops at Mission Viejo	150,000		MASSACHUSETTS Natick	Natick		
Mission Viejo Montclair	Montclair Plaza	172,000 134,000	1999 1986	MICHICAN	Collection	154,000	2007
Palo Alto	Stanford Shopping Center Stoneridge Mall	187,000 173,000	1984 1990	MICHIGAN Novi	Twelve Oaks Mall	172,000	2007
Pleasanton Redondo Beach	South Bay Galleria	161,000	1990	Troy	Somerset Collection	258,000	1996
Riverside Roseville	Galleria at Tyler Galleria at Roseville	164,000 149,000	1991 2000	MINNESOTA	Concenon	250,000	1770

	Arden Fair			Bloomington	Mall of		
Sacramento	Eachian Wallay	190,000	1989 1981		America	240,000	1992
San Diego San Diego	Fashion Valley Horton Plaza	220,000 151,000	1981	MISSOURI			
Sun Diego	University Towne Center	131,000	1703	Des Peres	West		
San Diego		130,000	1984		County	193,000	2002
San Francisco	San Francisco Centre	350,000	1988		•		
San Francisco	Stonestown Galleria	174,000	1988	NEVADA			
0 1	Valley Fair	222 000	1007	Las Vegas	Fashion	207.000	2002
San Jose San Mateo	Hillsdale Shopping Center	232,000 149,000	1987 <sub>1</sub> 1982		Show	207,000	2002
Santa Ana	MainPlace	169,000	1982	NEW JERSEY			
Santa Barbara	Paseo Nuevo	186,000	1990	Edison	Menlo Park	204,000	1991
	Broadway Plaza	•		Freehold	Freehold	ŕ	
					Raceway		
Walnut Creek		193,000	1984	_	Mall	174,000	1992
				Paramus	Garden State	202.000	1000
				Short Hills	Plaza The Mall at	282,000	1990
COLORADO				Short Tills	Short Hills	188,000	1995
Broomfield	FlatIron Crossing	172,000	2000			100,000	1775
Denver	Cherry Creek Shopping Center	142,000	2007	NEW YORK			
	Park Meadows			Garden City	Roosevelt		
Littleton		245,000	1996	****	Field	241,000	1997
				White Plains	The Wastahastan	219,000	1995
CONNECTICUT	٦				Westchester	219,000	1993
CONNECTICE	Westfarms			NORTH			
Farmington		189,000	1997	CAROLINA			
				Charlotte	SouthPark	151,000	2004
				Durham	The Streets		
EL ODID A					at	140.000	2002
FLORIDA Boca Raton	Town Center at Boca Raton	193,000	2000		Southpoint	149,000	2002
Coral Gables	Village of Merrick Park	212,000	2002	OHIO			
Corus Cueres	Dadeland Mall	212,000		Beachwood	Beachwood		
Miami		150,000	2004		Place	231,000	1997
	The Florida Mall			Columbus	Easton		
0.11		174.000	2002		Town	171.000	2001
Orlando Palm Beach	The Gardens Mall	174,000	2002		Center	174,000	2001
Gardens	The Gardens Man	150,000	2006				
Tampa	International Plaza	172,000	2001				
Wellington	The Mall at Wellington Green	127,000	2003	OREGON			
	-			Portland	Clackamas		
					Town		
				Dortland	Center	121,000	1981
GEORGIA				Portland	Downtown	174 000	19661
						1 /4 (	
	Perimeter Mall			Portland	Portland Llovd	174,000	19001
Atlanta	Perimeter Mall	243,000	1998	Portland	Lloyd Center	174,000	19631

Edgar Filing: NORDSTROM INC - Form 10-K

Atlanta	Phipps Plaza	140,000	2005	Salem	Salem Center	71,000	1980
	Mall of Georgia	,		Tigard	Washington	, -,	
Buford		172,000	2000		Square	189,000	19741
	This store has been subsequently relocated.						

# **Table of Contents**

Location	Store Name	Square Footage(	Year Store Opened		Store Name	Square Footage(	Year Store Opened
Full-Line Stores (	continued)			Nordstrom R	Rack Group		
PENNSYLVANIA	King of			Chandler, AZ Phoenix, AZ	Chandler Festival Rack Last Chance	37,000	2000
King of Prussia	Prussia	238,000	1996	Scottsdale,	Scottsdale Promenade Rack	48,000	19921
RHODE ISLAND				AZ Brea, CA	Brea Union Plaza Rack	38,000 45,000	2000 1999
Providence	Providence Place	206,000	1999	Chino, CA	Chino Spectrum Towne Center Rack	38,000	19871
TEXAS				Colma, CA Costa Mesa, CA	Colma Rack Metro Pointe at South Coast Rack	31,000 50,000	1987 1983 <sub>1</sub>
122710	Barton Creek			Fresno, CA	Villaggio Retail Center Rack	30,000	17031
Austin	Square Galleria	150,000	2003	Glendale, CA	Glendale Fashion Center Rack	32,000	2002
Dallas	Dallas NorthPark	249,000	1996	•	Long Beach CityPlace Rack	36,000	2000
Dallas Frisco	Center Stonebriar Centre	212,000 149,000	2005	CA Los Angeles, CA	The Promenade at Howard Hughes	33,000 41,000	2002
Houston	Houston Galleria	226,000	2003	CA	Center Rack	41,000	2001
Hurst	North East Mall	149,000	2001	Ontario, CA	Ontario Mills Mall Rack	40,000	2002
	The Shops at La			Oxnard, CA	Esplanade Shopping Center Rack		
San Antonio	Cantera	149,000	2005		Creekside Town Center Rack	38,000	2001
UTAH				CA Sacramento, CA	Howe `Bout Arden Center Rack	36,000 54,000	2001 1999
Murray	Fashion Place	110,000	1981	San Diego, CA	Mission Valley Rack	57,000	19851
Orem	University Mall	122,000	2002	San Francisco, CA	555 Ninth Street Retail	43,000	2001
VIRGINIA	The Fashion				Center Rack Westgate Mall Rack San Leandro Rack	48,000	1998
Arlington	Centre at Pentagon	241,000	1989	CA	Grand Plaza Rack	44,000	1990
	City			CA		35,000	2006

	Dulles Town			Woodland	Topanga Rack		
Dulles	Center Tysons	148,000	2002	Hills, CA Broomfield,	Flatiron Marketplace Rack	64,000	1984
	Corner	211 000	1000	CO		26.000	2001
McLean	Center MacArthur	211,000	1988	Littleton CO	Meadows Marketplace Rack	36,000	2001
Norfolk	Center	166,000	1999	Littleton, CO	Wicadows Warketplace Rack	34,000	1998
	Short Pump	,		Miami, FL	Last Chance	.,,,,,,,	
	Town						
Richmond	Center	128,000	2003	G : FI		26,000	2005
WASHINGTON				Sunrise, FL Buford, GA	The Oasis at Sawgrass Mills Rack Mall of Georgia Crossing Rack	27,000 44,000	2003 2000
WASHINGTON	Bellevue			•	Ward Centers Rack	44,000	2000
Bellevue	Square	285,000	19671	•		34,000	2000
Lynnwood	Alderwood	151,000	19791	Chicago, IL	The Shops at State and	41,000	2003
G1	Downtown	202.000	10.62		Washington Rack		
Seattle	Seattle Northgata	383,000	19631		Northbrook Rack		
Seattle	Northgate Mall	122,000	1965	Northbrook, IL	NOITHDIOOK NACK	40,000	1996
Spokane	River Park	137,000		Oak Brook,	The Shops at Oak Brook Place Rack	42,000	2000
•	Square			IL	•		
_	Tacoma			•	Woodfield Rack		
Tacoma	Mall	134,000	1966	IL California la comp	Calda and anna David	45,000	1994
Tukwila	Southcenter	170,000	1968	MD	Gaithersburg Rack	49,000	1999
Vancouver	Vancouver	71,000	1977		Towson Rack	31,000	1992
		ŕ		Grand	Centerpointe Mall Rack	•	
				Rapids, MI		40,000	2001
Other				Troy, MI	Troy Marketplace Rack	40,000	2000
				MN	Mall of America Rack	41,000	1998
	Jeffrey			Las Vegas,	Silverado Ranch Plaza Rack	41,000	1770
Atlanta, GA	J	7,000	2007	NV		33,000	2001
	Ward			Westbury,	The Mall at the Source Rack		
YY 1 1 YYY	Centers	16,000	1007	NY		40.000	1007
Honolulu, HI	Shoes Jeffrey	16,000	1997	Beaverton,	Tanasbourne Town Center Rack	48,000	1997
New York, NY	Jenney	11,000	2007	OR	Tanasbourne Town Center Rack	53,000	1998
,		,		Clackamas,	Clackamas Promenade Rack	,	
				OR		28,000	19831
				•	Downtown Portland Rack	32,000	19861
				King of Prussia, PA	The Overlook at King of	45,000	2002
				Trussia, TA	Prussia Rack	45,000	2002
				Plano, TX	Preston Shepard Place Rack	39,000	2000
				Salt Lake	Sugarhouse Rack		
				City, UT		31,000	1991
				-	Dulles Town Crossing Rack	41,000	2001
				VA	Potomac Mills Rack	46,000	1990
					SuperMall of the Great	48,000	1995

Edgar Filing: NORDSTROM INC - Form 10-K

	Northwest Rack		
Bellevue,	Factoria Mall Rack		
WA		46,000	1997
Lynnwood,	Golde Creek Plaza Rack		
WA		38,000	19851
Seattle, WA	Downtown Seattle Rack	42,000	1987
Spokane,	NorthTown Mall Rack		
WA		28,000	2000
Tukwila, WA	Southcenter Square Rack	35,000	2007

In 2008, we have opened two full-line stores and closed our free-standing shoe store. During the remainder of 2008 we are scheduled to open six more full-line stores and three Rack stores. In 2009, we are scheduled to open five full-line stores and two Rack stores.

Nordstrom, Inc. and subsidiaries 11

This store has been subsequently relocated.

### Item 3. Legal Proceedings.

(Dollars in millions)

### **COSMETICS**

We were originally named as a defendant along with other department store and specialty retailers in nine separate but virtually identical class action lawsuits filed in various Superior Courts of the State of California in May, June and July 1998 that were consolidated in Marin County Superior Court. In May 2000, plaintiffs filed an amended complaint naming a number of manufacturers of cosmetics and fragrances and two other retailers as additional defendants. Plaintiffs amended complaint alleged that the retail price of the prestige or Department Store cosmetics and fragrances sold in department and specialty stores was collusively controlled by the retailer and manufacturer defendants in violation of the Cartwright Act and the California Unfair Competition Act.

Plaintiffs sought treble damages and restitution in an unspecified amount, attorneys fees and prejudgment interest, on behalf of a class of all California residents who purchased cosmetics and fragrances for personal use from any of the defendants during the four years prior to the filing of the original complaints.

While we believe that the plaintiffs claims are without merit, we entered into a settlement agreement with the plaintiffs and the other defendants on July 13, 2003 in order to avoid the cost and distraction of protracted litigation. In furtherance of the settlement agreement, the case was re-filed in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California on behalf of a class of all persons who currently reside in the United States and who purchased Department Store—cosmetics and fragrances from the defendants during the period May 29, 1994 through July 16, 2003. The Court gave preliminary approval to the settlement, and a summary notice of class certification and the terms of the settlement was disseminated to class members. On March 30, 2005, the Court entered a final judgment approving the settlement and dismissing the plaintiffs—claims and the claims of all class members with prejudice, in their entirety. On April 29, 2005, two class members who had objected to the settlement filed notices of appeal from the Court—s final judgment to the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. The Ninth Circuit issued its decision on August 23, 2007, affirming the District Courts—ruling and the settlement became final according to its terms on November 22, 2007. Pursuant to the settlement, the defendants will provide class members with certain free products with an estimated retail value of \$175 and pay the plaintiffs—attorneys—fees, awarded by the Court, of \$24. We have paid approximately \$1 for our allocated portion of both the costs of the free products to class members and the attorneys—fees.

### **OTHER**

We are involved in routine claims, proceedings and litigation arising from the normal course of our business. We do not believe any such claim, proceeding or litigation, either alone or in aggregate, will have a material impact on our financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.

 ${\bf Item~4.~Submission~of~Matters~to~a~Vote~of~Security~Holders.}$ 

None.

### **PART II**

# Item 5. Market for Registrant s Common Equity, Related Shareholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities.

# MARKET, SHAREHOLDER AND DIVIDEND INFORMATION

Our common stock, without par value, is traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol JWN. The approximate number of holders of common stock as of March 12, 2008 was 166,390, based upon the number of registered and beneficial shareholders, as well as the number of employee shareholders in the Nordstrom 401(k) Plan and Profit Sharing Plan.

The high and low sales prices of our common stock and dividends declared for each quarter of 2007 and 2006 are presented in the table below:

	Common St	tock Price			
20	007	20	06	Dividends	per Share
High	Low	High	Low	2007	2006

Edgar Filing: NORDSTROM INC - Form 10-K

1st Quarter	\$59.70	\$49.35	\$42.90	\$37.51	\$0.135	\$0.105
2nd Quarter	\$56.00	\$42.70	\$39.50	\$31.77	\$0.135	\$0.105
3rd Quarter	\$53.47	\$36.12	\$49.52	\$32.97	\$0.135	\$0.105
4th Quarter	\$39.95	\$28.00	\$57.10	\$45.37	\$0.135	\$0.105
Full Year	\$59.70	\$28.00	\$57.10	\$31.77	\$ 0.54	\$ 0.42
12						

#### REPURCHASES

(Dollars and share amounts in millions except per share amounts)

We believe that the cash flows generated from the business are best utilized when reinvested in our business or distributed to our shareholders. With the objective of minimizing cash held on the balance sheet, we balance our shareholder payout objectives with meeting our capital structure goals and funding our operating and capital plans. Our shareholder payout objective is to continue to pay a quarterly dividend and to execute the authorized share repurchase program. In the execution of our share repurchase programs we use either open market repurchase plans or accelerated repurchase plans and seek a rate of return that over the long term exceeds the after-tax yield on invested cash and exceeds our cost of capital.

A summary of share repurchases during the fourth quarter is as follows:

		Average	Total Number of Shares	
	Total	Price	(or Units)	Maximum Number (or
	Number of	Paid	Purchased as	<b>Approximate Dollar</b>
	Shares (or	Per	Part of Publicly	Value) of Shares (or
	Units)	Share	Announced	<b>Units) that May Yet Be</b>
			Plans or	<b>Purchased Under the</b>
Period	Purchased	(or Unit)	Programs	Plans or Programs <sup>1</sup>
Nov. 2007 (11/4/07 to 12/1/07)				\$1,751
Dec. 2007 (12/2/07 to 1/5/08)	5.4	\$35.97	5.4	\$1,556
Jan. 2008 (1/6/08 to 2/2/08)	5.9	\$32.91	5.9	\$1,364
Total	11.3	\$34.38	11.3	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> During 2007, we repurchased 39 shares of our common stock for an aggregate purchase price of \$1,728 (an average price per share of \$44.17). In May 2006, the Board of Directors authorized \$1,000 of share repurchases which was exhausted in August 2007. Additionally, in August 2007, our Board of Directors authorized a \$1,500 share repurchase program and in November 2007 authorized an additional \$1,000, bringing the total program to \$2,500. The program authorization will expire after 24 months. The actual amount and timing of future share repurchases will be subject to market conditions and applicable Securities and Exchange Commission rules.

### STOCK PRICE PERFORMANCE

The following graph compares, for each of the last five fiscal years, ending February 2, 2008, the cumulative total return of Nordstrom, Inc. common stock, Standard & Poor s 500 Index and Standard & Poor s Retail Index. The Retail Index is comprised of 40 retail companies, including the Company, representing a sector of the Standard & Poor s 500 Index. The cumulative total return of Nordstrom, Inc. common stock assumes \$100 invested on January 31, 2003 in Nordstrom, Inc. common stock and assumes reinvestment of dividends.

End of fiscal year:	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Standard & Poor s 500 Index	100	132	137	150	169	163
Standard & Poor s Retail Index	100	148	169	182	208	168
Nordstrom, Inc. common stock	100	222	272	488	660	469

Nordstrom, Inc. and subsidiaries 13

### Item 6. Selected Financial Data.

(Dollars in millions except sales per square foot and per share amounts)

The following selected financial data are derived from the audited Consolidated Financial Statements and should be read in conjunction with Item 1A Risk Factors, Item 7 Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, and the Consolidated Financial Statements and the related notes included in Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Fiscal year	2007 <sup>3</sup>	2006	2005	2004	2003
Operations					
Net sales	\$8,828	\$8,561	\$7,723	\$7,131	\$6,449
Same-store sales percentage					
increase <sup>1</sup>	3.9%	7.5%	6.0%	8.5%	4.1%
Gross profit	3,302	3,207	2,835	2,572	2,233
Gross profit rate <sup>2</sup>	37.4%	37.5%	36.7%	36.1%	34.6%
Selling, general and					
administrative expenses	(2,360)	(2,297)	(2,101)	(2,020)	(1,899)
Selling, general and					
administrative rate <sup>2</sup>	<b>26.7</b> %	26.8%	27.2%	28.3%	29.4%
Finance charges and other, net	271	239	196	173	155
Earnings before interest and					
income taxes	1,247	1,149	930	725	489
Earnings before interest and	·				
income taxes as a percentage of					
net sales	14.1%	13.4%	12.0%	10.2%	7.6%
Interest expense, net	(74)	(43)	(45)	(78)	(91)
Earnings before income taxes	1,173	1,106	885	647	398
Earnings before income taxes as					
a percentage of net sales	13.3%	12.9%	11.5%	9.1%	6.2%
Net earnings	715	678	551	393	243
Net earnings as a percentage of					
net sales	8.1%	7.9%	7.1%	5.5%	3.8%
Earnings per diluted share	<b>\$2.88</b>	\$2.55	\$1.98	\$1.38	\$0.88
Dividends per share	<b>\$0.54</b>	\$0.42	\$0.32	\$0.24	\$0.205
Return on average shareholders					
equity	43.6%	31.8%	28.4%	23.0%	16.2%
Sales per square foot	\$402	\$393	\$369	\$347	\$325
Financial Position (at year end)					
Customer accounts receivable,					
net	\$1,705	\$609	\$567	\$580	\$595
Investment in asset backed	Ψ1,700	ΨΟΟΣ	φυση	φυσσ	φονο
securities		428	561	422	272
Merchandise inventories	956	997	956	917	902
Current assets	3,361	2,742	2,874	2,572	2,525
Current liabilities	1,635	1,433	1,623	1,341	1,123
Land, buildings and equipment,	2,000	1,100	1,025	1,0 11	1,123
net	1,983	1,757	1,774	1,780	1,808
	-,- 00	-,	-,,,	-,, 00	1,000

Edgar Filing: NORDSTROM INC - Form 10-K

Long-term debt, including					
current portion	2,497	631	934	1,030	1,234
Shareholders equity	1,115	2,169	2,093	1,789	1,634
Book value per share	5.05	8.43	7.76	6.59	5.90
Total assets	5,600	4,822	4,921	4,605	4,569
Store Information (at year end)					
Full-line stores	101	98	98	94	92
Rack and other stores	55	57	57	56	56
International Façonnable					
boutiques		36	32	31	31
Total square footage	20,502,000	20,170,000	20,070,000	19,397,000	19,138,000

Same-stores include stores that have been open at least one full year at the beginning of the year. Fiscal year 2006 includes an extra week (the 53<sup>rd</sup> week) as a result of our 4-5-4 retail reporting calendar. The 53<sup>rd</sup> week is not included in same-store sales calculations.

2007. Prior to the sale, the domestic Façonnable boutiques were included in Rack and other stores.

14

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Gross profit and selling, general and administrative rates are calculated as a percentage of net sales.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> During the third quarter of 2007, we completed the sale of our Façonnable business and realized a gain on sale of \$34 (\$21, net of tax). Results of operations for fiscal year 2007 include the international Façonnable boutiques through August 31, 2007 and the domestic Façonnable boutiques through October 31,

### Item 7. Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.

(Dollar, share and square footage amounts in millions except percentages, per share and per square foot amounts) Nordstrom is a fashion specialty retailer offering designer, luxury and high-quality apparel, shoes, cosmetics and accessories for women, men and children. We offer a wide selection of brand name and private label merchandise. We offer our products through multiple channels including full-line Nordstrom stores, discount Nordstrom Rack stores, Jeffrey boutiques, catalogs and on the Internet at www.nordstrom.com. Our stores are located throughout the United States. In addition, we offer our customers a variety of payment products and services including our loyalty program.

# STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

We believe we are well positioned to grow the value of our business by executing the following key initiatives: tailoring our merchandise offering within existing product categories to better meet the needs of our core customers, improving the consistency and shopping experience for our customers across all channels, and continuing to increase our presence where our customers shop. We focus on customers who love fashion, value quality—both in merchandise and design—and appreciate great service.

# **Merchandise Strategies**

We ve found that there s a great deal of opportunity to grow our sales in existing stores simply by earning a greater share of our customers business across multiple product categories. We use customer insight to better serve our customers needs and wants. Our goal is to provide customers with a best-in-market selection of designer, luxury and quality fashion brands. Our top performing merchandise division was our designer category, including apparel, shoes and accessories merchandise. We continue to enhance our designer offering across categories and improve our distribution from the world s best luxury brands. Our breadth of merchandise will allow us to serve both the growing core customer segment as well as those who aspire to luxury and quality.

# **Multi-Channel Shopping Experience**

As a multi-channel retailer, we are positioned to respond to evolving customer needs and expectations. We continue to strive to offer knowledgeable, friendly and welcoming service, both in our stores and online with an integrated offering and experience. We have committed the necessary resources and critical projects are close to completion in this effort.

Our online store is essential to creating and maintaining relationships with many of our most active and loyal customers. Many customers begin shopping with us online and migrate to our stores. By giving customers a consistent shopping experience in-store and online, we re making progress to become more relevant to today s shoppers. We continue to use technology to find new ways to serve our customers better, such as one view of inventory and point of sale upgrades. We also continue to make improvements to our Web site to make shopping easier.

### **Increase Our Presence**

We continue to grow our presence in the top markets and best retail locations around the country. We see potential to gain market share and grow our business by increasing our presence where our customers live. Fortunately, we are in an advantageous position to reach new customers through building stores and remodeling our current ones. We ve recently launched a \$3,000 five-year capital plan, with 82% of the dollars allocated to new stores, remodels and relocations.

We will continue to have a disciplined approach to real estate acquisitions, adding new stores when and where they pass our criteria. Our current plan is to have 140 to 150 full-line stores by 2015.

#### **OVERVIEW**

In 2007, we continued to grow our business despite operating in a more challenging consumer and retail environment compared to past years. A slower economic environment weighed on the overall market, resulting in softer trends throughout the retail industry in the second half of the year. Our ability to provide a focused and edited merchandise offering, incorporating the best of what the marketplace has to offer in terms of fashion, quality and brands, has contributed to our results in this and past years. Our customers want the best merchandise available. Key highlights for 2007 include:

We achieved positive same-store sales growth for the sixth year in a row. Same-store sales increased 3.9% on top of our 7.5% increase in 2006 and our 6.0% increase in 2005.

Increased markdowns at our full-line stores led to a 6 basis point decline in our gross profit rate.

Our selling, general and administrative rate improved 9 basis points primarily from lower incentives tied to company performance, partially offset by higher bad debt expense.

Full year net earnings increased 5.5% as a result of same-store sales increases, the openings of three full-line stores during 2007, and lower incentive costs tied to company performance.

Earnings per diluted share increased 12.9% over last year to \$2.88. We repurchased 39 shares totaling \$1,728 during the year, which had a \$0.07 positive impact on earnings per diluted share.

Like many other retailers, Nordstrom follows the retail 4-5-4 reporting calendar, which included an extra week in fiscal 2006 (the 53<sup>rd</sup> week). The 53<sup>rd</sup> week is not included in same-store sales calculations.

Nordstrom, Inc. and subsidiaries 15

#### **Securitization of Accounts Receivable**

On May 1, 2007, we converted the Nordstrom private label card and co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit card programs into one securitization program, which is accounted for as a secured borrowing (on-balance sheet). When we combined the securitization programs, our investment in asset backed securities was converted from available-for-sale securities to receivables. Based on past payment patterns, our receivable portfolio was repaid within approximately eight months. During that time, we transitioned the co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit card receivable portfolio to historical cost, net of bad debt allowances, on our balance sheet.

Substantially all of the Nordstrom private label receivables and 90% of the co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit card receivables are securitized. Under the securitization, the receivables are transferred to a third-party trust on a daily basis. The balance of the receivables transferred to the trust fluctuates as new receivables are generated and old receivables are retired (through payments received, charge-offs, or credits for merchandise returns). On May 1, 2007, the trust issued securities that are backed by the receivables. These combined receivables back the Series 2007-1 Notes, the Series 2007-2 Notes, and an unused variable funding note that is discussed in Note 8: Long-term debt. Prior to May 1, 2007, the co-branded Nordstrom VISA was off-balance sheet and finance charges and other income were recorded net of interest and write-offs. The co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit card portfolio was brought on-balance sheet and from May 1, 2007, all of the finance charges and other income related to the portfolio, net of transitional write-offs, were recorded in finance charges and other, net.

# RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Net	Sal	es
INCL	Sal	100

Fiscal year	2007	2006	2005
Net sales	\$8,828	\$8,561	\$7,723
Net sales increase	3.1%	10.8%	8.3%
Same-store sales increase	3.9%	7.5%	6.0%
Percentage of net sales by merchandise category:			
Women s apparel	35%	35%	35%
Shoes	20%	20%	21%
Men s apparel	18%	18%	18%
Cosmetics	11%	11%	11%
Women s accessories	11%	10%	9%
Children s apparel	3%	3%	3%
Other	2%	3%	3%

### 2007 VS 2006 NET SALES

Our full-line stores had a 2.5% same-store sales increase in 2007, on top of 5.9% in the same period in 2006. The Midwest, South and Northwest were our strongest performing regions during 2007. By category, our largest same-store sales increases came from our designer apparel, women s accessories and men s merchandise categories. The designer category, which benefited from additional investment as an important component of our merchandise strategy, had a double-digit same-store sales increase. Designer apparel offers fashion-forward and aspirational products, which drove the increase. Women s accessories benefited from increased sales of handbags and fashion jewelry. The increase in men s apparel was in part due to growth in our younger contemporary offering. Our Rack same-store sales increased 8.7% in 2007, in addition to last year s 10.9% increase. Rack purchases the majority of its merchandise from third parties and serves as a clearance channel for our full-line stores. The sales growth came from all regions and merchandise categories. Same-store sales were consistent across all regions, which showed high single-digit increases. Merchandise categories driving the largest same-store sales increases for Rack were the accessories and cosmetics category and the men s category. The men s increase reflects sales from premium denim, suits and dress shirts. High performance bodywear, watches and sunglasses led the accessories and cosmetics categories.

Nordstrom Direct s 2007 total net sales increased 16.7% to \$633. The growth in our Direct business was driven by our efforts to better align our online shopping environment with the customer experience in our full-line stores. This includes aligning our merchandise offering with the full-line stores to create a seamless experience for customers. Total company net sales increased 3.1% as a result of our same-store sales increases as well as from the three full-line stores and one Rack store opened during fiscal 2007. The 2006 fiscal calendar had 53 weeks compared to our normal operating calendar of 52 weeks. In the 53<sup>rd</sup> week of 2006, we had sales of \$118. Excluding the extra week of sales in fiscal 2006, total sales increased 4.6% in fiscal year 2007.

### **Table of Contents**

### 2006 VS 2005 NET SALES

All of our full-line store regions and most of our full-line store merchandise categories had same-store sales increases. Our full-line stores had a 5.9% same-store sales increase, ahead of 5.4% in 2005. Our compelling merchandise offering, combined with customer service, drove sales increases throughout our business, particularly in accessories, cosmetics and men s apparel. The largest increase was in our accessories category, driven by handbags and sunglasses. Cosmetics benefited from increases in the artistry and prestigious branded lines. Additionally, the men s increase came from men s contemporary, including fashion denim and t-shirts.

Our Rack same-store sales increased 10.9% in 2006, on top of an increase of 14.8% in 2005. The sales growth came from all regions and merchandise categories.

Our online store sales drove Nordstrom Direct s 2006 total net sales increase of 23.5%. Our online sales benefited from the overall Internet marketplace expansion, driven by the continued adoption of higher-speed Internet connections which allow for convenient and efficient shopping, as well as utilization of the Internet as a tool for research and information before making a purchase decision. Catalog sales experienced an overall decline because we reduced our catalog mailings beginning in the middle of 2005.

Total net sales increased 10.8% as a result of our same-store sales increases as well as from the five full-line stores and one Rack store opened since February 2006. We also relocated one full-line store and expanded one Rack store, which contributed to our increase in total net sales. In the 53<sup>rd</sup> week, we had sales of \$118. Sales for the 53<sup>rd</sup> week represented 1.5% of the total percentage increase versus 2005.

# 2008 FORECAST OF SAME-STORE SALES

In 2008, we have opened two full-line stores and plan to open six more full-line stores and three Rack stores. This will increase retail square footage by approximately 6%. We expect 2008 same-store sales to be approximately flat to a 2% decrease, with the first half of the year lower than the annual rate and the second half of the year higher than the annual rate.

### **Gross Profit**

Fiscal year	2007	2006	2005
Gross profit	\$3,302	\$3,207	\$2,835
Gross profit rate	37.4%	37.5%	36.7%
Average inventory per square foot	\$52.70	\$52.37	\$51.25
Inventory turnover rate*	5.16	5.06	4.84

<sup>\*</sup> Inventory turnover rate calculated as annual cost of sales divided by 5-quarter average inventory. 2007 VS 2006 GROSS PROFIT

Our gross profit rate is made up of both merchandise margin rate and buying and occupancy cost rate. Compared to last year, our gross profit rate declined 6 basis points, driven primarily by markdowns at our full-line stores. During the year we experienced increasing inventory levels coupled with slower sales trends. To realign our inventory levels, we took higher markdowns during the last half of the year. The increase in markdowns was offset by a decrease in our buying and occupancy costs. The decrease in these expenses related to performance-based incentives and lower expense resulting from the sale of our Façonnable business.

The increase in our average inventory per square foot supports the growth of our designer business in apparel, accessories and shoes. Although we encountered softer sales trends during the latter half of 2007, inventory discipline and growth in sales throughout the year resulted in improvement in our inventory turnover rate, which increased 1.9%. 2006 VS 2005 GROSS PROFIT

Our gross profit rate improved 75 basis points, driven primarily by expansion of our merchandise margin rate. All major merchandise categories contributed to this rate expansion. Our women s apparel category experienced significant rate expansion in the second half of the year due to strategy changes that brought a sharper focus to our merchandise offering, resulting in more regular price selling and fewer markdowns.

For the first time, in 2006 our buying and occupancy costs included expenses related to stock options awarded primarily to our merchant and product development groups. These costs were \$12 and impacted our gross profit rate by 14 basis points. Despite this additional expense, our buying and occupancy cost rate also improved, driven by sales growth relative to our mostly fixed buying and occupancy costs.

Sales growth and continued inventory discipline resulted in improvement in our inventory turnover rate, which increased 4.5%.

### 2008 FORECAST OF GROSS PROFIT

In 2008, we expect a net 30 to 60 basis point decrease in our gross profit rate as we will have additional occupancy costs from the eight full-line stores and three Rack stores we will open in 2008.

Nordstrom, Inc. and subsidiaries 17

### Selling, General and Administrative Expenses

Fiscal year	2007	2006	2005
Selling, general and administrative expenses	\$2,360	\$2,297	\$2,101
Selling, general and administrative rate	26.7%	26.8%	27.2%

### 2007 VS 2006 SELLING, GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

The increase in selling, general and administrative dollars in 2007 compared to 2006 is largely due to an increase in bad debt expense. In addition to the incremental bad debt expense related to the transition of our accounting treatment for our co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit card receivables to on-balance sheet, we observed an increase in delinquency and loss rates. However, our credit card delinquency rates, while rising, remain below the rates for the industry and major card issuers. The increase in bad debt expense was partially offset by decreases in our incentive costs tied to company performance. Our selling, general and administrative rate improved 9 basis points year over year due to the reduction in incentive costs tied to company performance being mostly offset by higher bad debt expense.

### 2006 VS 2005 SELLING, GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

The changes in selling, general and administrative expense dollars in 2006 compared to 2005 are largely a result of increases in variable expenses such as labor and stock option expense. The increase in selling labor directly correlates to our sales growth. Our other costs are mostly fixed and as sales increased they provided selling, general and administrative rate improvement. Non-selling labor dollars increased over the prior year, but at a lower rate than our sales growth. Additionally, stock option expense was included in our consolidated statement of earnings for the first time in 2006 as a result of adopting Statement of Financial Accounting Standards 123(R), *Share-Based Payment* (SFAS 123(R)).

In 2005, our selling, general and administrative rate was reduced by 24 basis points for favorable developments in our workers compensation reserve. Legislation was enacted in 2003 and 2004 that positively impacted the cost of California workers compensation claims. In addition to an improved regulatory climate in California, our workers compensation reserve was also positively impacted by a significant reduction in the number of claims that involved employees requiring time away from work.

# 2008 FORECAST OF SELLING, GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

In 2008, our selling, general and administrative rate is expected to increase by 60 to 80 basis points driven by a lower same-store sales plan and continued investment in our long-term growth. Our operating model normally results in an improved selling, general and administrative rate when we achieve a minimum of low single-digit same-store sales. The combination of our lower same-store sales plan as well as our planned new stores and the related pre-opening costs will likely cause our 2008 selling, general and administrative rate to increase when compared to prior years. We will continue to invest in high return projects, including new stores, which we believe will create long-term value.

### Finance Charges and Other, Net

Fiscal year	2007	2006	2005
Finance charges and other, net Finance charges and other, net as a percentage of net	\$271	\$239	\$196
sales	3.1%	2.8%	2.5%

## 2007 VS 2006 FINANCE CHARGES AND OTHER, NET

Finance charges and other, net increased \$32, primarily due to converting the Nordstrom private label card and co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit card receivables into one securitization program on May 1, 2007. Prior to May 1, 2007, the co-branded Nordstrom VISA was off-balance sheet and revenues were recorded net of interest and write-offs. The co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit card portfolio was brought on-balance sheet and from May 1,

2007, all of the finance charges and other income related to the portfolio, net of transitional write-offs, were recorded in finance charges and other, net.

### 2006 VS 2005 FINANCE CHARGES AND OTHER, NET

Finance charges and other, net increased \$43, primarily due to growth in the co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit card program. The principal balances of receivables in the co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit card portfolio, which in 2006 were held by a separate trust in which we held retained interests, increased 22.9% during 2006. The receivables growth increase produced an increase in the trust searnings and as a result, the income recorded in our consolidated statement of earnings.

In addition, income from finance charges on our private label card increased due to program growth.

In July 2006, we received \$6 of proceeds from the VISA Check/Master Money Antitrust Litigation. These proceeds were recorded as a gain in the second quarter of 2006 in finance charges and other, net.

### 2008 FORECAST OF FINANCE CHARGES AND OTHER, NET

We expect finance charges and other, net, to increase \$50 to \$60 in 2008 due to growth in credit card income related to the increased volume on our co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit card which will be partially offset by lower interest rates on customer accounts. Additionally, there is the year over year impact of \$21 of transitional write-offs on the co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit cards which lowered finance charges and other, net. These transitional write-offs were due to the securitization transaction that occurred in early 2007 and these charges will not recur in 2008.

18

### Gain on Sale of Faconnable

During the third quarter of 2007, we completed the sale of the Façonnable business in exchange for cash of \$216, net of transaction costs, and realized a gain on sale of \$34. The impact to reported earnings per diluted share for the year was \$0.09, net of tax of \$13.

### **Interest Expense, Net**

Fiscal Year	2007	2006	2005
Interest expense, net	<b>\$74</b>	\$43	\$45

### 2007 VS 2006 INTEREST EXPENSE, NET

We experienced higher interest expense, net, of \$74 due to higher average debt levels resulting from the issuance of \$850 in secured notes during the first quarter and our \$1,000 debt offering during the fourth quarter.

### 2006 VS 2005 INTEREST EXPENSE, NET

Interest expense, net decreased \$2 in 2006 compared to 2005. The decrease was primarily due to increased interest income from higher average cash investment balances.

### 2008 FORECAST OF INTEREST EXPENSE, NET

Our 2008 net interest expense will be impacted by several factors. Because of the additional debt incurred in 2007, we expect interest expense to increase due to volume. Interest rates are currently lower than 2007 levels and we expect to benefit from these lower rates with respect to the portion of our debt that is variable and our interest rate swap. Additionally, interest income is expected to be negatively impacted by market rate declines as well as lower levels of invested funds. We currently expect interest expense, net, to be approximately \$55 to \$60 higher due to these factors. For further information, we refer you to our Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk included as Item 7A of this Form 10-K.

### **Income Tax Expense**

Fiscal Year	2007	2006	2005
Income tax expense	\$458	\$428	\$334
Effective tax rate	39.0%	38.7%	37.7%

### 2007 VS 2006 INCOME TAX EXPENSE

Our effective tax rate in 2007 increased from the 2006 rate because of the current year impact of Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Interpretation No. 48, *Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes* (FIN 48) and changes in our estimates of the carrying value of our deferred tax assets.

### 2006 VS 2005 INCOME TAX EXPENSE

Our effective tax rate in 2006 increased from the 2005 rate because current year changes in our estimates of the taxes due or recoverable for prior year activities and because the 2005 expense was lower due to a higher than expected utilization of a loss carryforward.

# 2008 FORECAST OF INCOME TAX EXPENSE

In 2008, considering the federal tax rate of 35.0%, the net effect of state income taxes, the net effect of permanently nondeductible items and the additional current year expense due to Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Interpretation No. 48, *Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes* (FIN 48), we expect our effective tax rate to be approximately 38.7%.

# Net Earnings and Earnings per Diluted Share

Fiscal Year	2007	2006	2005
Net earnings	\$715	\$678	\$551

Net earnings as a percentage of net sales	8.1%	7.9%	7.1%
Earnings per diluted share	\$2.88	\$2.55	\$1.98

## 2007 VS 2006 NET EARNINGS AND EARNINGS PER DILUTED SHARE

In 2007, net earnings increased 5.5% and earnings per diluted share increased 12.9% as a result of same-store sales increases, the three full-line stores opened since February 2007 and lower incentive costs tied to company performance. These increases were offset by increased markdowns at our full-line stores and higher bad debt expense. Additionally, earnings per diluted share for 2007 were impacted by the following transactions:

\$0.09 positive impact from the gain on the sale of the Façonnable business,

\$0.07 positive impact from repurchases of common stock, and

\$0.06 negative impact from the securitization transaction.

Nordstrom, Inc. and subsidiaries 19

#### 2006 VS 2005 NET EARNINGS AND EARNINGS PER DILUTED SHARE

In 2006, our 7.5% same-store sales increase combined with gross profit rate and selling, general and administrative rate improvement drove net earnings of \$678 and earnings per diluted share of \$2.55. The 53<sup>rd</sup> week contributed \$0.02 to earnings per diluted share. Additionally, in 2006, we repurchased 16 shares of our common stock.

2008 FORECAST OF EARNINGS PER DILUTED SHARE

We expect our earnings per diluted share to be in the range of \$2.75 to \$2.90 in 2008.

#### **Credit Card Contribution**

The Nordstrom Credit card products are designed to grow retail sales and customer relationships by providing superior payment products, services and loyalty benefits. Nordstrom cards are issued by Nordstrom fsb, a federally chartered thrift and wholly owned subsidiary of the Company. Qualified customers have a choice of the Nordstrom private label card, two co-branded Nordstrom VISA® cards, or a Nordstrom MOD® card. The MOD card facilitates purchases at Nordstrom, drawing funds from the customer—s existing checking account at any financial institution. Each card enables participation in the Nordstrom Fashion Rewards<sup>TM</sup> program, through which the customer accumulates points which, upon reaching a cumulative purchase threshold, result in Nordstrom Notes®, which can be redeemed for goods or services in our stores. Primary benefits of the Fashion Rewards program include:

	Annual Nordstrom purchases on	
Level	<b>Nordstrom Card</b>	<b>Primary Fashion Rewards Benefits</b>
		2 rewards points per dollar spent at Nordstrom
1	Membership with	1 rewards point per dollar spent outside Nordstrom where Visa
1	Nordstrom Card	cards are accepted
		\$20 Nordstrom Notes certificate per 2,000 points earned
		Level 1 benefits plus
2	\$2,000 9,999	Complimentary in-store/online standard shipping
		Other specified benefits
		Level 1 and 2 benefits plus
3	\$10,000 19,999	Complimentary alterations up to \$300 annually
3	\$10,000 19,999	Bonus \$200 Nordstrom Notes certificate
		Other complimentary services
		Level 1, 2 and 3 benefits plus
4	\$20,000+	Unlimited complimentary alterations
7	Ψ20,000Τ	An additional \$200 Nordstrom Notes certificate
		Other complimentary services and access to special events

We believe participation in the Fashion Rewards program has resulted in beneficial shifts in customer spending patterns and incremental sales. The estimated cost of Nordstrom Notes that will be issued and redeemed under the rewards program are recorded in cost of sales in the Consolidated Statement of Earnings in the Credit segment. Credit card revenues include finance charges, late and other fees, and interchange fees which are recorded in Finance charges and other, net in the accompanying Consolidated Statements of Earnings. Interchange fees are earned from the use of Nordstrom VISA cards at merchants outside of Nordstrom. We do not charge fees to our retail stores when customers use our cards in our Retail and Direct segments. The majority of credit account balances have finance charge rates that vary with changes in the prime rate. We believe that the design of the Nordstrom credit card products as well as the Fashion Rewards programs have contributed to the growth in our Credit segment.

Interest is allocated to the Credit segment based on the debt that is secured by our Nordstrom private label and co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit card receivables. Operational and marketing expenses are incurred to support and service our credit card products.

The following table illustrates a detailed view of our operational results of the Credit segment, consistent with the segment disclosure provided in the notes to the consolidated financial statements.

Fiscal Year	2007	2006	2005
Finance charges and other income <sup>1</sup> Interest expense	\$271 (37)	\$214 (11)	\$186 (17)
Net credit card income	234	203	169
Bad debt expense <sup>1</sup> Operational and marketing expense	(107) (138)	(17) (113)	(21) (95)
Total expense	(245)	(130)	(116)
Credit card contribution to earnings before income tax expense, as presented in segment disclosure	<b>\$</b> (11)	\$73	\$53

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> In 2007, the one-time transitional charge-offs on the co-branded VISA receivables of \$21 are included in finance charges and other, net on our consolidated statement of earnings. In the above disclosure this amount is included in bad debt expense rather than finance charges and other income. These charge-offs represent actual write-offs on the Nordstrom VISA credit card portfolio during the eight-month transitional period, as discussed in Securitization of Accounts Receivable.

20

In order to view the total economic contribution of our credit card program, the following additional items need to be considered:

During 2007, we combined our Nordstrom private label credit card and co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit card programs into one securitization program. At this time the Nordstrom co-branded VISA credit card receivables were brought on-balance sheet. For comparability between years, off-balance sheet amounts are shown for additional **finance charge and other income**, **interest expense**, and **bad debt expense**. This combined presentation mitigates the impact of the change in accounting.

**Intercompany merchant fees and other** represents the additional intercompany income of our credit business from the usage of our cards in the Retail and Direct segments. On a consolidated basis, we avoid these costs which would be incurred if our customers used third-party cards.

Additional **intercompany interest expense** represents a portion of consolidated interest expense based on estimated funding costs for average accounts receivable which would be needed if our Credit segment was a stand-alone organization. This allocation method assumes that 80 percent of average accounts receivable are debt-financed with an appropriate mix of fixed and variable rate debt.

The following table illustrates total credit card contribution, including the items discussed above:

Fiscal Year	2007	2006	2005
Finance charges and other income (from above)	<b>\$271</b>	\$214	\$186
Off-balance sheet finance charges and other income	22	37	26
Intercompany merchant fees and other	48	43	38
Total finance charges and other income	341	294	250
Interest expense (from above)	(37)	(11)	(17)
Off-balance sheet interest expense	(6)	(21)	(8)
Intercompany interest expense	(27)	(26)	(18)
Total interest expense	(70)	(58)	(43)
Total net credit card income	271	236	207
Bad debt expense (from above)	(107)	(17)	(21)
Off-balance sheet bad debt expense	(7)	(22)	(25)
Total bad debt expense	(114)	(39)	(46)
Operational and marketing expense	(138)	(113)	(95)
Total expense	(252)	(152)	(141)
Total credit card contribution	<b>\$19</b>	\$84	\$66

Interest expense increased in 2007 due to higher borrowings from portfolio growth. 2006 interest expense reflects higher interest rate trends and higher borrowings due to portfolio growth.

Credit division expenses include a bad debt provision. Delinquency and write-offs increased in 2007, reflecting credit industry trends. The allowance as a percent of on-balance sheet accounts receivable increased in 2007, reflecting higher estimated losses inherent in the current receivable portfolio. In 2007, we also incurred one-time transitional

charge-offs associated with bringing the co-branded VISA receivables on-balance sheet. Write-offs declined in 2006 following an increase in bankruptcy filings in the fourth quarter of 2005 which was the result of a change in federal bankruptcy laws. The allowance as a percent of on-balance sheet accounts receivable decreased in 2006, reflecting lower current and expected write-offs. Bad debt expense can be summarized as follows:

Fiscal Year	2007	2006	2005
Private label bad debt expense	\$40	\$17	\$21
Visa on-balance sheet bad debt expense	46		
Visa off-balance sheet bad debt expense	7	22	25
Total bad debt in selling, general and administrative			
expense	<b>\$93</b>	\$39	\$46
Transitional charge-offs <sup>1</sup>	21		
Total bad debt expense	<b>\$114</b>	\$39	\$46

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> In 2007, the one-time transitional charge-offs on the co-branded VISA receivables of \$21 are included in finance charges and other, net on our consolidated statement of earnings. In the above disclosure this amount is included in bad debt expense rather than finance charges and other income. These charge-offs represent actual write-offs on the Nordstrom VISA credit card portfolio during the eight-month transitional period, as discussed in Securitization of Accounts Receivable.

Nordstrom, Inc. and subsidiaries 21

#### **Table of Contents**

Operational and marketing expense as a percent of credit volume increased from 2.3% in 2006 and 2005 to 2.4% in 2007 due to additional expense of \$13 associated with the introduction of Fashion Rewards in 2007. Without these expenses, operational and marketing expenses as a percent of Credit volume would have decreased. The following table summarizes our accounts receivable and related metrics for the last three fiscal years:

	February 2, 2008	February 3, 2007	January 28, 2006
Accounts receivable on-balance sheet Accounts receivable off-balance sheet	\$1,778	\$626 908	\$585 739
Total accounts receivable	\$1,778	\$1,534	\$1,324
Assumed ratio of debt financed Estimated funding level	80% \$1,422	80% \$1,227	80% \$1,059
Net accounts receivable investment	\$356	\$307	\$265
Credit card contribution, net of tax, as a percentage of net accounts receivable investment	3.2%	16.8%	15.6%
Average accounts receivable  Net write-offs as a percentage of average receivables  Allowance as a percentage of on-balance sheet	\$1,660 3.5%	\$1,416 2.5%	\$1,264 3.5%
accounts receivable	4.1%	2.7%	2.9%
Balances over 30 days as a percentage of accounts receivable	2.5%	2.1%	1.7%

The decline in credit card contribution, net of tax, as a percentage of net accounts receivable investment in 2007 was driven by increased bad debt expense, as discussed above. Additionally, as discussed above, in 2007 we had additional expense associated with the introduction of Fashion Rewards.

Key growth metrics for the Credit division include:

	Growth Rates		
Fiscal Year	2007	2006	
Credit volume	14.6%	18.0%	
Accounts receivable (combined portfolios)	15.9%	15.9%	
Finance charges and other income	16.0%	17.6%	

Growth in the volume and amount of credit transactions typically results in related growth in credit card receivables and, in turn, growth in finance charges and other income. Credit volume and finance charges and other income growth were favorably affected by the 53<sup>rd</sup> week in 2006.

### **Fourth Quarter Results**

Net earnings for the fourth quarter of 2007 were \$212 compared with \$232 in 2006. Total sales for the quarter decreased 4.4% to \$2,514 and same-store sales were approximately flat. The 2006 fiscal calendar had 53 weeks compared to our normal operating calendar of 52 weeks; therefore, the fourth quarter of 2006 included an extra week ( the 59 week ). Excluding the extra week of sales in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2006, total sales were flat in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2007. Our designer apparel, accessories, and women s shoe merchandise categories experienced the

largest same-store sales increases. Designer apparel features luxury and high-fashion products. Handbags led the accessories category while women s shoes benefited from the sale of comfort boots.

Our gross profit rate declined to 37.6% from 38.3% last year. Merchandise margin decreased versus the prior year, driven mainly by higher markdowns.

Our selling, general and administrative rate improved 68 basis points from 26.0% to 25.4%. The primary driver was lower incentives tied to company performance, partially offset by higher bad debt expense. Although our overall credit card quality is above average, we experienced higher delinquency and loss rates in the fourth quarter of 2007. However, these were in line with our expectations and, the overall quality of our credit portfolio remains high.

## Return on Invested Capital (ROIC) (Non-GAAP financial measure)

We define Return on Invested Capital (ROIC) as follows:

ROIC = Net Operating Profit After Taxes (NOPAT)

#### Average Invested Capital

Numerator = NOPAT	Denominator = Average Invested Capital
Net earnings + Income tax expense	Average total assets - Average non-interest-bearing current
i income tax expense	liabilities
+ Interest expense, net	<ul><li>Average deferred property incentives</li><li>+ Average estimated asset base of</li></ul>
= EBIT	capitalized operating leases
+ Rent expense	= Average invested capital
- Estimated depreciation on	

= Net operating profit

capitalized operating leases

- Estimated income tax expense

#### = NOPAT

We believe that ROIC is a useful financial measure for investors in evaluating our operating performance for the periods presented. When read in conjunction with our net earnings and total assets and compared to return on assets, it provides investors with a useful tool to evaluate our ongoing operations and our management of assets from period to period. In the past three years, we have incorporated ROIC into our key financial metrics, and since 2005 have used it as an executive incentive measure. Overall performance as measured by ROIC correlates directly to shareholders return over the long term. For the 12 fiscal months ended February 2, 2008, our ROIC decreased to 19.4% compared to 20.9% for the 12 months ended February 3, 2007. Our ROIC decreased primarily due to a lower percentage increase in earnings before interest and income taxes compared to the percentage increase in average invested capital. The increase in average invested capital in 2007 compared to 2006 is primarily due to the securitization transaction on May 1, 2007, which brought the entire portfolio of co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit card receivables on-balance sheet as of that date. ROIC, however, is not a measure of financial performance under accounting principles generally accepted in the United States ( GAAP ) and should not be considered a substitute for return on assets, net earnings or total assets as determined in accordance with GAAP and may not be comparable to similarly titled measures reported by other companies. See our ROIC reconciliation to GAAP below. The closest GAAP measure is return on assets, which decreased to 13.1% from 14.0% for the last 12 months ended February 2, 2008 compared to the 12 months ended February 3, 2007.

	12 fiscal months ended	
	February 2, 2008	February 3, 2007
Net earnings Add: income tax expense	\$715 458	\$678 428

Edgar Filing: NORDSTROM INC - Form 10-K

Add: interest expense, net	74	43
Earnings before interest and income taxes	1,247	1,149
Add: rent expense	48	48
Less: estimated depreciation on capitalized operating leases <sup>1</sup>	(26)	(26)
Net operating profit	1,269	1,171
	(405)	(452)
Estimated income tax expense	(497)	(453)
Net operating profit after taxes	\$772	\$718
Average total assets <sup>2</sup>	\$5,455	\$4,854
Less: average non-interest-bearing current liabilities <sup>3</sup>	(1,506)	(1,424)
Less: average deferred property incentives <sup>2</sup> Add: average estimated asset base of capitalized	(359)	(358)
operating leases <sup>4</sup>	395	362
Average invested capital	\$3,985	\$3,434
Return on assets ROIC	13.1 % 19.4 %	14.0% 20.9%
11010	17.7	<b>20.</b> 7 /0

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Depreciation based upon estimated asset base of capitalized operating leases as described in Note 4 below.

Nordstrom, Inc. and subsidiaries 23

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Based upon the trailing 12-month average.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Based upon the trailing 12-month average for accounts payable, accrued salaries, wages and related benefits, other current liabilities and income taxes payable.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Based upon the trailing 12-month average of the monthly asset base which is calculated as the trailing 12 months rent expense multiplied by 8.

#### LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

Overall, cash decreased by \$45 to \$358 as of February 2, 2008. The decrease was driven by returns to our shareholders through dividends and repurchases of our common stock, principal payments on long-term borrowings, and capital expenditures. These decreases were partially offset by proceeds from the issuance of debt, cash provided by operating activities, and proceeds received from the sale of Façonnable.

## **Operating Activities**

### 2007 VS 2006 OPERATING ACTIVITIES

Net cash flow from operating activities decreased from \$1,142 to \$161, a decrease of \$981 primarily driven by our conversion of our co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit card receivables into an on-balance sheet securitization program in the first quarter of 2007. As a result of the transaction, we recorded the co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit card receivables on our consolidated balance sheet and eliminated our investment in asset backed securities resulting in a decline of operating cash flow of \$881.

## 2006 VS 2005 OPERATING ACTIVITIES

Net cash flow from operating activities increased from \$776 to \$1,142, an increase of \$366 primarily because we reduced our investment in asset backed securities by \$350 to fund the repayment of \$300 of private label securitization debt. Also, we were successful in expanding our private label card and co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit card programs, which increased our investment in these programs but provided increased earnings. 2008 FORECAST FOR OPERATING ACTIVITIES

In 2008, we expect cash flow from operating activities to improve in part due to the non-reoccurrence of the 2007 securitization transaction. In 2007, we moved the co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit card receivables onto our balance sheet as part of the securitization transaction which reduced our 2007 cash flow from operating activities.

### **Investing Activities**

Net cash flow used in investing activities increased \$52 from \$218 in 2006 to \$270 in 2007. In 2007, we sold our Façonnable business in exchange for cash of \$216, net of transaction costs. These proceeds were offset by investing cash outflows for capital expenditures totaling \$501.

In 2005 and 2006, we had two principal types of investing activities: capital expenditures and short-term investments. In 2006, we sold our short-term investments and primarily used the proceeds for common stock repurchases.

### **CAPITAL EXPENDITURES**

Our annual capital expenditures ranged from \$264 to \$501 between 2005 and 2007. The largest components of these expenditures were for new or relocated stores and store remodels.

In 2007 we opened three full-line stores at Natick Collection in Natick, Massachusetts; Twelve Oaks Mall in Novi, Michigan; and Cherry Creek Shopping Center in Denver, Colorado. We also opened one Rack store at Southcenter Square in Tukwila, Washington. Together these openings increased our gross square footage approximately 2.6%. Our total square footage as of February 2, 2008 was 21. In 2007, 51% of our capital expenditures were for new or relocated stores, 24% were for major remodels and 3% were for minor remodels. In addition, 8% of our capital expenditures were for information technology and 14% were for other projects.

Our capital expenditures over the last three years totaled \$1,037. With these capital expenditures, we added stores, enhanced existing facilities and improved our information systems. More than 1.1 square feet of retail store space have been added during this period, representing an increase of 5.9% since January 29, 2005.

We expect that our capital expenditures will be approximately \$3,000 over the next five years, with \$536 planned for 2008. We plan to use 55% of this investment to build new and relocated stores, 27% on remodels, 8% on information technology and 10% for minor remodels and other projects.

Compared to the previous five years, capital expenditures will more than double, with increased spending allocated to new stores. Our current five-year plans outline a 29% increase in square footage, with 32 announced new stores announced through 2012; over half of these stores will be in our Northeast, South and Midwest regions. We believe we have the capacity to address additional capital investments should opportunities arise.

In the second half of 2008, we expect to open four new full-line stores and three Rack stores, and in the first half of 2009, we expect to open three new full-line stores and two Rack stores. We typically incur the majority of our pre-opening costs in the six months prior to opening. In 2008, incremental new store pre-opening costs, which will be

recorded in selling, general and administrative expenses, are expected to impact our earnings per diluted share by \$0.03.

As of February 2, 2008, we were contractually committed to spend \$157 for constructing new stores, remodeling existing stores, and other capital projects.

24

#### **Financing Activities**

Our net cash provided by financing increased \$1,048 from \$984 of cash used in financing activities to \$64 provided by financing activities mainly due to proceeds from long-term borrowings, net. We use our net cash provided by operating activities and our proceeds from financing activities to repay long-term borrowings, pay dividends, and to repurchase our common stock. In 2007, we conducted an extensive review of our capital structure and determined that we should add a moderate amount of leverage. Our target capital structure is 2x Adjusted Debt to EBITDAR, a level of leverage that is consistent with our goal of maintaining current credit ratings.

## **DEBT ISSUANCE**

In the first quarter of 2007, the Private Label Trust used our previously existing variable funding facility to issue a total of \$150 in Notes. On May 1, 2007, we paid the outstanding balance and terminated this facility. At that time, we entered into a new securitization transaction, issuing \$850 in secured notes (the Series 2007-1 Class A & B Notes, due April 2010 and the Series 2007-2 Class A & B Notes, due April 2012) and establishing a variable funding facility backed by substantially all of the Nordstrom private label card receivables and a 90% interest in the co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit card receivables with a capacity of \$300. During the third quarter, the combined Nordstrom VISA and Private Label Trust issued \$220 of Notes to fund share repurchases, which we paid off by the end of the year.

During the third quarter of 2007, we entered into an agreement for a new variable funding facility backed by the remaining 10% interest in the co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit card receivables with a commitment of \$100. No issuances have been made against this facility during 2007. Borrowings under the facility will incur interest based upon the cost of commercial paper issued by the third party bank conduit plus specified fees.

In December 2007, we issued \$650 aggregate principal amount of 6.25% senior unsecured notes due 2018 and \$350 aggregate principal amount of 7% senior unsecured notes due 2038 for proceeds of \$988, net of discount. The interest rates were higher than historical average, due largely to recent fluctuating market conditions and the softer retail environment. We used the note proceeds to pay down our short-term borrowings and repurchase shares. We have the capacity to issue commercial paper under our new dealer agreement that is supported by our unsecured line of credit. During the third quarter of 2007, we issued commercial paper, and as of November 3, 2007, the

line of credit. During the third quarter of 2007, we issued commercial paper, and as of November 3, 2007, the outstanding balance was \$392. As a result of the December 2007 debt issuance, we reclassified \$302 of the outstanding balance of commercial paper from commercial paper to long-term debt as of November 3, 2007, because it was refinanced by the debt. The commercial paper was issued in order to fund share repurchase activity and the growth from the on-balance sheet co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit card receivables.

### **DEBT RETIREMENT**

The following table outlines our debt retirement activity:

Fiscal Year	2007	2006	2005
Principal repaid or retired:			
2001-1 Variable Funding Note	\$150		
2007-A Variable Funding Note	220		
Commercial Paper	302		
Private Label Securitization, 4.82%, due 2006		\$300	
Notes payable, 6.7%, due 2005			\$96
Other	8	7	5
Total	\$680	\$307	\$101
Total cash payment	\$680	\$307	\$101

On May 1, 2007, we paid the \$150 outstanding balance on the 2001-1 Variable Funding Note and terminated the facility in connection with entering an agreement for a new variable funding facility (2007-A Variable Funding Note). Under the 2007-A Variable Funding Note we issued and repaid \$220 during the year. Additionally, with the proceeds of the debt issued in the fourth quarter, we repaid \$302 of the commercial paper facility, of which \$392 was outstanding at the end of the third quarter. The remaining \$90 of the commercial paper was paid during the fourth quarter of 2007 using operating cash flows.

We retired the \$300 4.82% Private Label Securitization debt when it matured in October 2006. We repaid the remaining \$96 of our 6.7% medium-term notes when they matured in 2005.

### SHARE REPURCHASE

In February 2005, our Board of Directors authorized \$500 of share repurchases. Overall for 2005, we purchased 8 shares for \$287 at an average price of \$33.80 per share. We utilized the remaining authorization of \$213 in the first quarter of 2006, purchasing 6 shares at an average price of \$39.27 per share.

Our Board of Directors authorized an additional \$1,000 of share repurchases in May 2006. During the remainder of 2006, we repurchased 11 shares for \$409 as part of this authorization, at an average price of \$36.74.

Nordstrom, Inc. and subsidiaries 25

#### **Table of Contents**

During the first half of 2007 we repurchased 11 shares for \$590 as part of the existing authorization from May 2006, including \$300 repurchased as part of an accelerated share repurchase program. In May 2007, we entered into an accelerated share repurchase agreement with Credit Suisse International to repurchase shares of our common stock for an aggregate purchase price of \$300. We purchased approximately five million four hundred thousand shares of our common stock on May 23, 2007 at \$55.17 per share. Under the terms of the agreement, we received approximately four hundred thousand shares in June 2007 at no additional cost, based on the volume weighted average price of our common stock from June 1, 2007 to June 26, 2007. This resulted in an average price per share of \$51.69 for the accelerated share repurchase as a whole.

In August 2007, our Board of Directors authorized a \$1,500 share repurchase program. In November 2007, our Board of Directors authorized an increase of \$1,000 to the share repurchase program. During the second half of 2007, we purchased 28 shares for \$1,137 at an average price of \$41.05, using the remaining \$1 on the May 2006 authorization and beginning to use the August and November 2007 authorizations. As of February 2, 2008 the unused authorization was \$1,364. Repurchases under the program may be made through the end of 2009. The actual amount and timing of future share repurchases will be subject to market conditions and applicable SEC rules.

#### Adjusted Debt to EBITDAR (Non-GAAP financial measure)

We define Adjusted Debt to Earnings before Interest, Income Taxes, Deprecation, Amortization and Rent (EBITDAR) as follows:

Adjusted Debt to EBITDAR =

Adjusted Debt

Earnings before Interest, Income Taxes, Depreciation, Amortization and Rent (EBITDAR)

Numerator = Adjusted Debt	<b>Denominator = EBITDAR</b>
Debt	Net Earnings
+ Rent expense x 8	+ Income tax expense
+ Off-balance sheet notes	+ Interest expense, net
	+ Depreciation and amortization of
= Adjusted Debt	buildings and equipment
	+ Rent expense
+ Off-balance sheet notes	<ul> <li>+ Interest expense, net</li> <li>+ Depreciation and amortization of buildings and equipment</li> </ul>

#### = EBITDAR

We believe that Adjusted Debt to EBITDAR is a useful measure for investors in evaluating our levels of debt for the periods presented, in addition to being a key measure used by rating agencies. When read in conjunction with our net earnings and debt and compared to debt to net earnings, it provides investors with a useful tool to evaluate our ability to maintain appropriate levels of debt from period to period. Beginning in 2007, we have incorporated Adjusted Debt to EBITDAR into our key financial metrics. We believe that our ability to maintain appropriate levels of debt is best measured by Adjusted Debt to EBITDAR. Our goal is to manage debt levels at approximately 2.0 times Adjusted Debt to EBITDAR. For 2007, our Adjusted Debt to EBITDAR was 1.8 compared to 1.1 at the end of 2006. The increase was the result of the \$988, net of discount, of notes issued in the fourth quarter of 2007. This measure, however, is not a measure of financial performance under GAAP and should not be considered a substitute for debt to net earnings, net earnings, or debt as determined in accordance with GAAP and may not be comparable to similarly titled measures reported by other companies. See our Adjusted Debt to EBITDAR reconciliation to GAAP below. The closest GAAP measure is debt to net earnings, which was 3.5 for 2007 and 0.9 for 2006.

	$2007^{1}$	$2006^{1}$
Debt	\$2,497	\$ 631
Add: rent expense x 8	382	381
Add: off-balance sheet notes		550
Adjusted Debt	\$2,879	\$1,562
Net earnings	715	678
Add: income tax expense	458	428
Add: interest expense, net	74	43
Earnings before interest and income taxes	1,247	1,149
	269	285

Edgar Filing: NORDSTROM INC - Form 10-K

Add: depreciation and amortization of buildings and

equipment

 Add: rent expense
 48
 48

 EBITDAR
 \$1,564
 \$1,482

Debt to Net Earnings3.50.9Adjusted Debt to EBITDAR1.81.1

Nordstrom, Inc. and subsidiaries 27

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The components of adjusted debt are as of the end of 2007 and 2006, while the components of EBITDAR are for the 12 months ended February 2, 2008 and February 3, 2007.

#### Off-Balance Sheet Financing and Securitization of Accounts Receivable

Prior to May 2007, through our wholly owned federal savings bank, Nordstrom fsb, we offered a private label card and two co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit cards. The private label card receivables were held in a trust, which could issue third-party debt that was secured by the private label receivables; the private label program was treated as on-balance sheet. Both the receivables, net of bad debt allowance, and any debt were recorded on our consolidated balance sheet. The finance charge income was recorded in finance charges and other, net, and the bad debt expense was recorded in selling, general and administrative expenses.

The co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit card receivables were held in a separate trust (the VISA Trust), which could issue third-party debt that was secured by the co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit card receivables. The co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit card program was treated as off-balance sheet. We recorded the fair value of our interest in the VISA Trust on our consolidated balance sheet, gains on the sale of receivables to the VISA Trust and our share of the VISA Trust s finance income in finance charges and other, net. As of February 3, 2007, the VISA Trust had co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit card receivables with a total face amount of \$908 and had outstanding two series of notes held by third-parties: \$200 of 2002 Class A&B notes that matured in April 2007, and \$350 of 2004-2 variable funding notes that were paid in April 2007. In fiscal 2006, the co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit card receivables had an average gross yield of 16.8% and average annual credit losses of 2.8%. The weighted average interest rate on the third-party notes was 5.3%.

On May 1, 2007, we converted the Nordstrom private label cards and co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit card programs into one securitization program, which is accounted for as a secured borrowing (on-balance sheet). When we combined the securitization programs, our investment in asset backed securities, which was accounted for as available-for-sale securities, was eliminated and we reacquired all of the co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit card receivables previously sold to the VISA trust. These reacquired co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit card receivables were recorded at fair value at the date of acquisition. We have transitioned the co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit card receivable portfolio to historical cost, net of bad debt allowances, on our consolidated balance sheet as of February 2, 2008.

On May 1, 2007, the trust issued securities that are backed by substantially all of the Nordstrom private label card receivables and 90% of the co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit card receivables. Under the securitization, the receivables are transferred to a third-party trust on a daily basis. The balance of the receivables transferred to the trust fluctuates as new receivables are generated and old receivables are retired (through payments received, charge-offs or credits for merchandise returns). These combined receivables back the Series 2007-1 Notes, the Series 2007-2 Notes and an unused variable funding note.

Our earnings per diluted share were reduced by \$0.06 for one-time transitional write-offs associated with bringing the co-branded VISA receivables on balance sheet.

## **Interest Rate Swaps**

To manage our interest rate risk, we entered into an interest rate swap agreement in 2003, which had a \$250 notional amount expiring in January 2009. Under the agreement, we receive a fixed rate of 5.63% and pay a variable rate based on LIBOR plus a margin of 2.3% set at six-month intervals (5.32% at February 2, 2008). The interest rate swap agreement had a fair value of \$1 and \$(9) at the end of 2007 and 2006.

#### **Contractual Obligations**

The following table summarizes our contractual obligations and the expected effect on our liquidity and cash flows as of February 2, 2008. We expect to fund these commitments primarily with operating cash flows generated in the normal course of business and credit available to us under existing and potential future facilities.

		Less than			More than
	Total	1 year	1-3 years	3-5 years	5 years
Long-term debt	\$4,260	\$ 396	\$612	\$710	\$2,542

Edgar Filing: NORDSTROM INC - Form 10-K

Capital lease obligations	23	3	5	4	11
Other long-term					
liabilities	201	1	37	22	141
Operating leases	578	69	138	111	260
Purchase obligations	1,382	1,227	154	1	
Total	\$6,444	\$1,696	\$946	\$848	\$2,954

Included in the required debt repayments disclosed above are estimated total interest payments of approximately \$1,779 as of February 2, 2008, payable over the remaining life of the debts.

Other long-term liabilities consist of workers compensation and general liability insurance reserves, postretirement benefits and Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Interpretation No. 48, *Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes* (FIN 48) reserves. The repayment amounts presented above were determined based on historical payment trends. We expect to pay \$1 of uncertain tax positions under FIN 48 in the next 12 months and include this balance in other long-term liabilities as due in less than 1 year. We are unable to reasonably estimate the timing of future cash flows for the remaining balance and have excluded this in the table above. Other long-term liabilities not requiring cash payments, such as deferred property incentives and deferred revenue, were excluded from the table above.

28

#### **Table of Contents**

Purchase obligations primarily consist of purchase orders for unreceived goods or services, our Minimum Purchase Agreement with the Façonnable U.S. wholesale business, and capital expenditure commitments.

This table also excludes the short-term liabilities, other than the current portion of long-term debt, disclosed on our 2007 consolidated balance sheet, as the amounts recorded for these items will be paid in the next year.

## **Credit Capacity and Commitments**

The following table summarizes our amount of commitment expiration per period:

	Total				
	Amounts	Less than	1-3	2.5	More than
	Committed	1 year	years	3-5 years	5 years
Other commercial commitments \$300 variable funding note \$100 variable funding note \$500 commercial paper Standby letters of credit Import letters of credit	\$8	\$8			
Total	\$8	\$8			

During the first quarter of 2007, we entered into an agreement for a new variable funding facility (2007-A Variable Funding Note) backed by substantially all of the Nordstrom private label card receivables and 90% interest in the co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit card receivables with a commitment of \$300. Borrowings under the facility incur interest based upon the cost of commercial paper issued by the third party bank conduit plus specified fees. During the third quarter of 2007, we used this facility to issue \$220 in Notes and paid the outstanding balance during the third and fourth quarters of 2007. We pay a commitment fee for the note based on the size of the commitment and the amount of borrowings outstanding. Commitment fee rates decrease if more than \$50 is outstanding on the facility. The facility can be cancelled or not renewed if our debt ratings fall below Standard and Poor s BB+ rating or Moody s Ba1 rating. Our current rating by Standard and Poor s is A-, four grades above BB+, and by Moody s is Baa1, three grades above Ba1. At year-end, we had no outstanding balance on this variable funding note.

During the third quarter of 2007, we entered into an agreement for an additional variable funding facility backed by the remaining 10% interest in the co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit card receivables with a commitment of \$100. As of February 2, 2008, no issuances have been made against this facility. Borrowings under the facility will incur interest based upon the cost of commercial paper issued by the third party bank conduit plus specified fees. During the third quarter of 2007, we entered into a new commercial paper dealer agreement, supported by our unsecured line of credit. Under this commercial paper program, we may issue commercial paper in an aggregate amount outstanding at any particular time not to exceed \$500. This agreement allows us to use the proceeds to fund share repurchases as well as operating cash requirements. Under the terms of the commercial paper agreement, we pay a rate of interest based on, among other factors, the maturity of the issuance and market conditions. The issuance of commercial paper has the effect, while it is outstanding, of reducing our borrowing capacity under the line of credit by an amount equal to the principal amount of the commercial paper. We had no commercial paper borrowings outstanding at February 2, 2008.

We have an automatic shelf registration statement on file with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Under the terms of the registration statement, and subject to the filing of certain post-effective amendments, we are authorized to issue an unlimited principal amount of debt securities.

## **Debt Ratings**

The following table shows our credit ratings at the date of this report:

Credit Ratings	Moody's	Standard and Poor's
Senior unsecured debt	Baa1	A-
Commercial paper	P-2	A-2
Outlook	Stable	Stable

These ratings could change depending on our performance and other factors. Our outstanding debt is not subject to termination or interest rate adjustments based on changes in our credit ratings.

Nordstrom, Inc. and subsidiaries 29

#### **Dividends**

In 2007, we paid dividends of \$0.54 per share, the eleventh consecutive year that our annual dividends increased. We paid dividends of \$0.42 and \$0.32 in 2006 and 2005. In determining the amount of dividends to pay, we analyze our dividend payout ratio and dividend yield, and balance the dividend payment with our operating performance and capital resources. We target a dividend payout ratio of approximately 20% to 25% of net income, an increase from our prior target of 18% to 20%. For the dividend yield, which is calculated as our dividends per share divided by our stock price, we target a 1.3% long-term yield. While we plan to increase dividends over time, we will balance future increases with our operating performance and available capital resources.

In February 2008, we declared a quarterly dividend of \$0.16 per share, increased from \$0.135 per share in the prior year.

## Liquidity

We maintain a level of liquidity sufficient to allow us to cover our seasonal cash needs and to minimize our need for short-term borrowings. We believe that our operating cash flows, existing cash and available credit facilities are sufficient to finance our cash requirements for the next 12 months.

Over the long term, we manage our cash and capital structure to maximize shareholder return, strengthen our financial position and maintain flexibility for future strategic initiatives. We continuously assess our debt and leverage levels, capital expenditure requirements, principal debt payments, dividend payouts, potential share repurchases and future investments or acquisitions. We believe our operating cash flows, existing cash and available credit facilities, as well as any potential future borrowing facilities, will be sufficient to fund these scheduled future payments and potential long-term initiatives.

## CRITICAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The preparation of our financial statements requires that we make estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses, and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. We base our estimates on historical experience and on other assumptions that we believe to be reasonable under the circumstances. Actual results may differ from these estimates. The following discussion highlights the policies we feel are critical and should be read in conjunction with the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

### **Inventory**

Our merchandise inventories are primarily stated at the lower of cost or market using the retail inventory method. Under the retail method, the valuation of inventories and the resulting gross margins are determined by applying a calculated cost-to-retail ratio to the retail value of ending inventory. To determine if the retail value of our inventory should be marked down, we consider current and anticipated demand, customer preferences, age of the merchandise and fashion trends. As our inventory retail value is adjusted regularly to reflect market conditions, our inventory is valued at the lower of cost or market. Inherent in the retail inventory method are certain significant management judgments that may significantly affect the ending inventory valuation as well as gross margin. Among others, the significant estimates used in inventory valuation are obsolescence and shrinkage.

We reserve for obsolescence based on historical trends and specific identification. Shrinkage is estimated as a percentage of net sales for the period from the most recent semi-annual inventory count based on historical shrinkage results. Therefore, our obsolescence reserve and shrinkage percentage contain uncertainties as the calculations require management to make assumptions and to apply judgment regarding a number of factors, including market conditions, the selling environment, historical results and current inventory trends.

Management does not believe that the assumptions used in these estimates will change significantly based on prior experience. In prior years, we have made no material changes to our estimates included in the calculations of the obsolescence and shrinkage reserves. A 10% change in the obsolescence reserve would have impacted net income by approximately \$2 for the year ended February 2, 2008. We do not believe a 10% change in our shrink percentage would have a material effect on our net earnings.

### **Revenue Recognition**

We recognize revenues net of estimated returns and we exclude sales taxes. Our retail stores record revenue at the point of sale. Our catalog and online sales include shipping revenue and are recorded upon estimated delivery to the customer. As part of the normal sales cycle, we receive customer merchandise returns. To recognize the financial

impact of sales returns, we estimate the amount of goods that will be returned and reduce sales and cost of sales accordingly. Inherent in establishing and maintaining a sales return reserve are management judgments around customer return patterns and return rates. We utilize historical return patterns to estimate our expected returns and, in prior years, we have made no material changes to our estimates included in the sales return reserve. Although we believe we have sufficient current and historical knowledge to record reasonable estimates of sales returns, there is a possibility that actual returns could differ from recorded amounts. A 10% change in the sales return reserve would have had a \$3 impact on our net earnings for the year ended February 2, 2008.

#### **Allowance for Doubtful Accounts**

Our allowance for doubtful accounts represents our best estimate of the losses inherent in our Nordstrom private label card and co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit card receivables as of the balance sheet date. We evaluate the collectibility of our accounts receivable based on several factors, including historical trends of aging of accounts, write-off experience and expectations of future performance. We recognize finance charges on delinquent accounts until the account is written off. Delinquent accounts are written off when they are determined to be uncollectible, usually after the passage of 151 days without receiving a full scheduled monthly payment. Accounts are written off sooner in the event of customer bankruptcy or other circumstances that make further collection unlikely. Management believes the allowance for doubtful accounts is adequate to cover anticipated losses in our credit card accounts receivable under current conditions; however, significant deterioration in any of the factors mentioned above or in general economic conditions could materially change these expectations. In prior years, we have not made material changes to our estimates involved in the allowance for doubtful accounts. A 10% change in our allowance for doubtful accounts would have affected net earnings by \$4 for the fiscal year ended February 2, 2008.

#### **Income Taxes**

In accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 109, Accounting for Income Taxes, we calculate income taxes using the asset and liability approach. We recognize deferred tax assets and liabilities based on the difference between the financial statement carrying amounts and respective tax bases of assets and liabilities. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured using enacted tax rates currently in effect for the years in which we expect those temporary differences to reverse.

Inherent in the measurement of deferred balances are certain judgments and interpretations of enacted tax law and published guidance. Our assumptions have been materially accurate in the past. We continuously monitor any changes in enacted tax rates in the jurisdictions in which we have a filing obligation and adjust our deferred tax balances accordingly. We regularly evaluate whether our deferred tax assets will more likely than not be realized in the foreseeable future and record a valuation allowance when appropriate.

In accordance with FASB Interpretation No. 48, Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes, we regularly evaluate the likelihood of recognizing the benefit for income tax positions we have taken in various federal, state, and foreign filings by considering all relevant facts, circumstances, and information available. For those benefits we believe more likely than not will be sustained, we recognize the largest amount we believe is cumulatively greater than 50% likely to be realized. Our assumptions for these benefits have been materially accurate in the past. A liability for the unrecognized portion of the income tax benefit will carry forward until the effective settlement of the issue on audit, the lapse in the statute of limitations to consider the issue, or a favorable change in law.

### RECENT ACCOUNTING PRONOUNCEMENTS

In September 2006, the FASB issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 157, *Fair Value Measurements* (SFAS 157). SFAS 157 defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value, and expands disclosures about fair value measurements. In February 2008, the FASB issued FASB Staff Position No. FAS 157-1 (FSP FAS 157-1) and FASB Staff Position No. FAS 157-2, (FSP FAS 157-2), affecting implementation of SFAS 157. FSP FAS 157-1 excludes FASB Statement No. 13, *Accounting for Leases* (SFAS 13), and other accounting pronouncements that address fair value measurements under SFAS 13, from the scope of SFAS 157. FSP FAS 157-2 delays the effective date of SFAS 157 for nonfinancial assets and nonfinancial liabilities, except for items that are recognized or disclosed at fair value on a recurring basis, to fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2008. For all other items, SFAS 157 was effective for Nordstrom as of February 3, 2008. We have adopted SFAS 157 as amended by FSP FAS 157-1 and FSP FAS 157-2 as of February 3, 2008. This adoption will not have a material effect on our consolidated financial statements.

In February 2007, the FASB issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 159, *The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities* (SFAS 159). SFAS 159 permits entities to choose to measure many financial instruments and certain other items at fair value. SFAS 159 was effective for Nordstrom as of February 3, 2008. We did not apply the fair value option to any of our outstanding instruments; therefore, SFAS 159 will have no effect on our consolidated financial statements.

In December 2007, the FASB issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 141 (Revised 2007), *Business Combinations* (SFAS 141(R)). SFAS 141(R) will significantly change the accounting for business combinations. Under

SFAS 141(R), an acquiring entity will be required to recognize all the assets acquired and liabilities assumed in a transaction at the acquisition-date fair value with limited exceptions. SFAS 141(R) will change the accounting treatment for certain specific acquisition-related items, including expensing acquisition-related costs as incurred, valuing noncontrolling interests (minority interests) at fair value at the acquisition date, and expensing restructuring costs associated with an acquired business.

SFAS 141(R) also includes a substantial number of new disclosure requirements. SFAS 141(R) is to be applied prospectively to business combinations for which the acquisition date is on or after January 1, 2009. Early adoption is not permitted. Generally, the effect of SFAS 141(R) will depend on future acquisitions.

Also in December 2007, the FASB issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 160, *Noncontrolling Interests in Consolidated Financial Statements* an amendment of ARB No. 51 (SFAS 160). SFAS 160 establishes new accounting and reporting standards for noncontrolling interest (minority interest) in a subsidiary, provides guidance on the accounting for and reporting of the deconsolidation of a subsidiary, and increases transparency through expanded disclosures. Specifically, SFAS 160 requires the recognition of minority interest as equity in the consolidated financial statements and separate from the parent company s equity. It also requires consolidated net earnings in the consolidated statement of earnings to include the amount of net earnings attributable to minority interest. This statement will be effective for Nordstrom as of the beginning of fiscal year 2009. Early adoption is not permitted. We are presently evaluating the impact of the adoption of SFAS 160 and believe there will be no material impact on our consolidated financial statements.

Nordstrom, Inc. and subsidiaries 31

## Item 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk.

## (Dollars in millions)

## INTEREST RATE RISK

Our primary exposure to market risk is through changes in interest rates. In seeking to minimize risk, we manage exposure through our regular operating and financing activities. We do not use financial instruments for trading or other speculative purposes and are not party to any leveraged financial instruments.

We have both credit card receivables that generate interest income and debt obligations which we pay fixed and variable interest expense. We manage our net interest rate exposure through our mix of fixed and variable rate borrowings. A portion of our credit card receivables maintains a fixed interest rate. Additionally, a portion of this portfolio is used as convenience by our customers and revolves monthly. The annualized effect of a one-percentage-point change in interest rates would not materially affect net earnings.

Additionally, short-term borrowing and investing activities generally bear interest at variable rates, but because they have maturities of three months or less, we believe that the risk of material loss is low, and that the carrying amount approximates fair value.

The table below presents information about our debt obligations and interest rate swaps that are sensitive to changes in interest rates at February 2, 2008. For debt obligations, the table presents principal amounts, at book value, by maturity date, and related weighted average interest rates. For interest rate swaps, the table presents notional amounts and weighted average interest rates by expected (contractual) maturity dates. Notional amounts are the predetermined dollar principal on which the exchanged interest payments are based.

Dollars in millions	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	Thereafter	Total at February 2, 2008	Fair value at February 2, 2008
Long-term debt								
Fixed	\$260	\$23	\$356	\$6	\$6	\$1,345	<b>\$1,996</b>	\$2,038
Avg. int. rate	5.7%	6.5%	5.0%	8.8%	8.5%	6.7%	6.3%	
Variable					\$500		\$500	\$475
Avg. int. rate					3.2%		3.2%	
Interest rate swap								
Fixed to variable	\$250						\$250	\$1
Avg. pay rate	5.32%						5.32%	
Avg. receive rate	5.63%						5.63%	

#### FOREIGN CURRENCY EXCHANGE RISK

The majority of our revenue, expense and capital expenditures are transacted in U.S. dollars. However, we periodically enter into foreign currency purchase orders denominated in Euros for apparel, accessories and shoes. We use forward contracts to hedge against fluctuations in foreign currency prices. We do not believe the fair value of our outstanding forward contracts at February 2, 2008 to be material.

# Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data. MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITY FOR FINANCIAL INFORMATION

We are responsible for the preparation, integrity and fair presentation of our financial statements and the other information that appears in this annual report on Form 10-K. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States and include estimates based on our best judgment.

We maintain a comprehensive system of internal controls and procedures designed to provide reasonable assurance, at an appropriate cost-benefit relationship, that our financial information is accurate and reliable, our assets are safeguarded and our transactions are executed in accordance with established procedures.

Deloitte and Touche LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, is retained to audit Nordstrom s consolidated financial statements and management s assessment of the effectiveness of the Company s internal control over financial reporting. Its accompanying reports are based on audits conducted in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States).

The Audit Committee, which is comprised of five independent directors, meets regularly with our management, our internal auditors and the independent registered public accounting firm to ensure that each is properly fulfilling its responsibilities. The Committee oversees our systems of internal control, accounting practices, financial reporting and audits to ensure their quality, integrity and objectivity are sufficient to protect shareholders investments.

## MANAGEMENT S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING

Our management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting, as is defined in the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. These internal controls are designed to provide reasonable assurance that the reported financial information is presented fairly, that disclosures are adequate and that the judgments inherent in the preparation of financial statements are reasonable. There are inherent limitations in the effectiveness of any system of internal control, including the possibility of human error and overriding of controls. Consequently, an effective internal control system can only provide reasonable, not absolute, assurance, with respect to reporting financial information.

Management conducted an evaluation of the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting based on the framework and criteria established in Internal Control Integrated Framework, issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission. Based on this evaluation, management concluded that the Company s internal control over financial reporting was effective as of February 2, 2008.

/s/ Michael G. Koppel
Michael G. Koppel
Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer
/s/ Blake W. Nordstrom
Blake W. Nordstrom
President

Nordstrom, Inc. and subsidiaries 33

#### REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

To the Board of Directors and Shareholders of Nordstrom, Inc.:

We have audited the internal control over financial reporting of Nordstrom, Inc. and subsidiaries (the Company) as of February 2, 2008, based on criteria established in *Internal Control Integrated Framework*, issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission. The Company's management is responsible for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting included in the accompanying *Management's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting*. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company's internal control over financial reporting based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether effective internal control over financial reporting was maintained in all material respects. Our audit included obtaining an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on the assessed risk, and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

A company s internal control over financial reporting is a process designed by, or under the supervision of, the company s principal executive and principal financial officers, or persons performing similar functions, and effected by the company s board of directors, management, and other personnel to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. A company s internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (1) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the company; (2) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of the company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the company; and (3) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition of the company s assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Because of the inherent limitations of internal control over financial reporting, including the possibility of collusion or improper management override of controls, material misstatements due to error or fraud may not be prevented or detected on a timely basis. Also, projections of any evaluation of the effectiveness of the internal control over financial reporting to future periods are subject to the risk that the controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate. In our opinion, the Company maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of February 2, 2008, based on the criteria established in *Internal Control Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission.

We have also audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the consolidated financial statements and financial statement schedule as of and for the year ended February 2, 2008, of the Company, and our report dated March 20, 2008, expressed an unqualified opinion on those financial statements.

/s/ Deloitte & Touche LLP Seattle, Washington March 20, 2008 34

#### REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

To the Board of Directors and Shareholders of Nordstrom, Inc.:

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Nordstrom, Inc. and subsidiaries (the Company) as of February 2, 2008 and February 3, 2007, and the related consolidated statements of earnings, shareholders equity, and cash flows for each of the three fiscal years in the period ended February 2, 2008. Our audits also included the financial statement schedule listed in the index at Item 15(a)2. These consolidated financial statements and financial statement schedule are the responsibility of the Company s management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements and financial statement schedule based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, such consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Nordstrom, Inc. and subsidiaries as of February 2, 2008 and February 3, 2007, and the results of their operations and cash flows for each of the three fiscal years in the period ended February 2, 2008, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Also, in our opinion, such financial statement schedule, when considered in relation to the basic consolidated financial statements taken as a whole, presents fairly, in all material respects, the information set forth therein.

As discussed in Note 1 to the consolidated financial statements, on January 29, 2006, the Company changed its method of accounting for stock-based compensation upon adoption of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123(R), *Share-Based Payment*.

We have also audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the Company s internal control over financial reporting as of February 2, 2008, based on the criteria established in *Internal Control Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission, and our report dated March 20, 2008, expressed an unqualified opinion on the Company s internal control over financial reporting.

/s/ Deloitte & Touche LLP Seattle, Washington March 20, 2008

Nordstrom, Inc. and subsidiaries 35

Nordstrom, Inc.

## **Consolidated Statements of Earnings**

In millions except per share amounts and percentages

Fiscal	year	2007	2006	2005
Net sa Cost o	les f sales and related buying and occupancy	\$8,828	\$8,561	\$7,723
costs	, , ,	(5,526)	(5,354)	(4,888)
Financ	profit g, general and administrative expenses ee charges and other, net on sale of Façonnable	3,302 (2,360) 271 34	3,207 (2,297) 239	2,835 (2,101) 196
	egs before interest and income taxes st expense, net	1,247 (74)	1,149 (43)	930 (45)
	gs before income taxes e tax expense	1,173 (458)	1,106 (428)	885 (334)
Net ea	arnings	\$715	\$678	\$551
	ngs per basic share ngs per diluted share	\$2.92 \$2.88	\$2.60 \$2.55	\$2.03 \$1.98
Basic : Dilute	shares d shares	245 249	261 266	272 278
Cash c	lividends paid per share	\$0.54	\$0.42	\$0.32
Consolidated Staten	nents of Earnings (% of Net sales)			
Fiscal	year	2007	2006	2005
Net sa Cost o costs	les f sales and related buying and occupancy	100.0 % (62.6)	100.0% (62.5)	100.0% (63.3)
Gross Selling Financ	profit g, general and administrative expenses the charges and other, net on sale of Façonnable	37.4 (26.7) 3.1 0.4	37.5 (26.8) 2.8	36.7 (27.2) 2.5
	ags before interest and income taxes st expense, net	14.1 (0.8)	13.4 (0.5)	12.0 (0.6)

Earnings before income taxes	13.3	12.9	11.5
Income tax expense (as a % of earnings before income taxes)	(39.0)	(38.7)	(37.7)
Net earnings	8.1%	7.9%	7.1%

The accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements are an integral part of these financial statements. 36

## **Table of Contents**

## Nordstrom, Inc.

## **Consolidated Balance Sheets**

In millions

	February 2, 2008	February 3, 2007
Assets		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$358	\$403
Accounts receivable, net	1,788	684
Investment in asset backed securities		428
Merchandise inventories	956	997
Current deferred tax assets, net	181	169
Prepaid expenses and other	78	61
Total current assets	3,361	2,742
Land, buildings and equipment, net	1,983	1,757
Goodwill	53	52
Acquired tradename		84
Other assets	203	187
Total assets	\$5,600	\$4,822
Liabilities and Shareholders Equity Current liabilities:	<b>4.5.</b>	<b>0.7.7.</b>
Accounts payable	\$556	\$577
Accrued salaries, wages and related benefits	268	340
Other current liabilities	492 58	433 76
Income taxes payable Current portion of long-term debt	261	70
Current portion of long-term debt	201	,
Total current liabilities	1,635	1,433
Long-term debt, net	2,236	624
Deferred property incentives, net	369	356
Other liabilities	245	240
Commitments and contingent liabilities		
Shareholders equity:		
Common stock, no par value: 1,000 shares		
authorized; 221 and 257 shares issued and	026	927
outstanding Retained earnings	936 201	827
Accumulated other comprehensive loss		1,351
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(22)	(9)
Total shareholders equity	1,115	2,169
Total liabilities and shareholders equity	\$5,600	\$4,822

The accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements are an integral part of these financial statements.

Nordstrom, Inc. and subsidiaries 37

## Nordstrom, Inc.

## Consolidated Statements of Shareholders Equity

In millions except per share amounts

			Ac	ccumulated Other	
	Comm	on Stock	Retaine Com	prehensive Earnings	
	Shares	Amount	Earnings	(Loss)	Total
Balance at January 29, 2005 Net earnings Other comprehensive earnings (loss):	271	\$553	\$1,227 551	\$9	\$1,789 551
Foreign currency translation adjustment Unrecognized loss on postretirement benefit				(2)	(2)
obligations, net of tax benefit of \$5 Fair value adjustment to investment in asset backed				(7)	(7)
securities, net of tax of \$(2)				3	3
Comprehensive net earnings Cash dividends paid (\$0.32 per share) Issuance of common stock for:			(87)		545 (87)
Stock option plans	6	113			113
Employee stock purchase plan Other	1	17 3			17 3
Repurchase of common stock	(8)		(287)		(287)
Balance at January 28, 2006	270	686	1,404	3	2,093
Net earnings Other comprehensive earnings (loss):			678		678
Foreign currency translation adjustment Unrecognized gain on postretirement benefit obligations				1	1
net of tax of \$(2), prior to adoption of SFAS 158 Fair value adjustment to investment in asset backed				3	3
securities, net of tax of \$2				(3)	(3)
Comprehensive net earnings Adjustment to initially apply SFAS 158, net of tax of \$8 Cash dividends paid (\$0.42 per share) Issuance of common stock for:			(110)	(13)	679 (13) (110)
Stock option plans Employee stock purchase plan Other	4	94 17 1			94 17 1
Stock-based compensation Repurchase of common stock	(17)	29	(621)		29 (621)
Balance at February 3, 2007	257	827	1,351	(9)	2,169

Edgar Filing: NORDSTROM INC - Form 10-K

Cumulative effect adjustment to adopt FIN 48			(3)		(3)
Adjusted Beginning Balance at February 3, 2007	257	827	1,348	(9)	2,166
Net earnings			715		715
Other comprehensive earnings (loss):					
Foreign currency translation adjustment				(15)	(15)
Postretirement plan adjustments, net of tax of (\$5)				7	7
Fair value adjustment to investment in asset backed					
securities, net of tax of \$3				(5)	(5)
Comprehensive net earnings					702
Cash dividends paid (\$0.54 per share)			(134)		(134)
Issuance of common stock for:					
Stock option plans	2	61			61
Employee stock purchase plan	1	17			17
Other		5			5
Stock-based compensation		26			26
Repurchase of common stock	(39)		(1,728)		(1,728)
Balance at February 2, 2008	221	<b>\$936</b>	<b>\$201</b>	<b>\$(22)</b>	\$1,115

The accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements are an integral part of these financial statements. 38

## Nordstrom, Inc.

**Table of Contents** 

## **Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows**

In millions

Fiscal year	2007	2006	2005
Operating Activities			
Net earnings	\$715	\$678	\$551
Adjustments to reconcile net earnings to net cash provided by operating			
activities:			
Depreciation and amortization of buildings and equipment	269	285	276
Gain on sale of Façonnable	(34)		
Amortization of deferred property incentives and other, net	(36)	(36)	(33)
Stock-based compensation expense	26	37	13
Deferred income taxes, net	(42)	(58)	(11)
Tax benefit from stock-based payments	28	44	41
Excess tax benefit from stock-based payments	(26)	(38)	
Provision for bad debt expense	107	17	21
Change in operating assets and liabilities:			
Accounts receivable	(1,234)	(61)	(15)
Investment in asset backed securities	420	128	(136)
Merchandise inventories		(39)	(21)
Prepaid expenses	<b>(9</b> )	(5)	(1)
Other assets	(27)	(8)	(3)
Accounts payable	(19)	84	32
Accrued salaries, wages and related benefits	(64)	49	(11)
Other current liabilities	36	23	39
Income taxes payable	(6)	(6)	(34)
Deferred property incentives	58	31	49
Other liabilities	(1)	17	19
Net cash provided by operating activities	161	1,142	776
Investing Activities			
Capital expenditures	(501)	(264)	(272)
Proceeds from sale of Façonnable	216	(201)	(272)
Proceeds from sale of assets	12		
Purchases of short-term investments		(110)	(543)
Sales of short-term investments		164	531
Other, net	3	(8)	(8)
<del>,</del>	_	(-)	(-)
Net cash used in investing activities	(270)	(218)	(292)
To			
Financing Activities	2.510		
Proceeds from long-term borrowings, net	2,510	(207)	(101)
Principal payments on long-term borrowings	(680)	(307)	(101)
Increase (decrease) in cash book overdrafts	5	(51)	5

71

Edgar Filing: NORDSTROM INC - Form 10-K

Proceeds from exercise of stock options	34	51	73
Proceeds from employee stock purchase plan	17	16	15
Excess tax benefit from stock-based payments	26	38	
Cash dividends paid	(134)	(110)	(87)
Repurchase of common stock	(1,702)	(621)	(287)
Other, net	(12)		
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	64	(984)	(382)
Net (decrease) increase in cash and cash equivalents	(45)	(60)	102
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	403	463	361
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	\$358	\$403	\$463

The accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements are an integral part of these financial statements.

Nordstrom, Inc. and subsidiaries 39

#### Nordstrom, Inc.

#### **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**

Dollar and share amounts in millions except per share and per option amounts

# NOTE 1: NATURE OF OPERATIONS AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES The Company

Founded in 1901 as a shoe store in Seattle, today Nordstrom is a fashion specialty retailer that offers customers a well-edited selection of designer, luxury, and high-quality fashion brands focused on clothing, shoes and accessories for men, women and children. This breadth of merchandise allows the company to serve both the growing affluent customer segment as well as those who appreciate quality products and experiences. We offer a wide selection of brand name and private label merchandise. We offer our products through multiple retail channels, including 101 Nordstrom full-line stores, 50 discount Nordstrom Rack stores, our catalogs and through our online store at www.nordstrom.com. Our stores are located throughout the United States.

Our credit operations offer a Nordstrom private label card, two co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit cards and a debit card for Nordstrom purchases, which generate earnings through finance charges and late fees. We offer our customers a variety of payment products and services, including our loyalty program.

Our operations also include a product development group, which coordinates the design and production of private label merchandise sold in our retail stores.

#### **Fiscal Year**

Our fiscal year ends on the Saturday closest to January 31st. References to 2007 relate to the 52-week fiscal year ended February 2, 2008. References to 2006 and 2005 relate to the 53-week fiscal year ended February 3, 2007 and the 52-week fiscal year ended January 28, 2006, respectively. Fiscal year 2006 includes an extra week (the 53<sup>rd</sup> week) as a result of our 4-5-4 retail reporting calendar. References to 2008 relate to the 52 weeks ending January 31, 2009.

## **Principles of Consolidation**

The consolidated financial statements include the balances of Nordstrom, Inc. and its subsidiaries. All significant intercompany transactions and balances are eliminated in consolidation.

#### **Use of Estimates**

We make estimates and assumptions that affect amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

#### **Revenue Recognition**

We record revenues net of estimated returns and we exclude sales taxes. Our retail stores record revenue at the point of sale. Our catalog and online sales include shipping revenue and are recorded upon estimated receipt by the customer. We recognize revenue associated with our gift cards upon redemption of the gift card. As part of the normal sales cycle, we receive customer merchandise returns. To recognize the financial impact of sales returns, we estimate the amount of goods that will be returned and reduce sales and cost of sales accordingly. We utilize historical return patterns to estimate our expected returns. Our sales return reserves were \$56 and \$55 at the end of 2007 and 2006.

## **Buying and Occupancy Costs**

Buying costs consist primarily of compensation and other costs incurred by our merchandise and product development groups. Occupancy costs include rent, depreciation, property taxes and facility operating costs of our retail, corporate center and distribution operations.

## **Shipping and Handling Costs**

Our shipping and handling costs include payments to third-party shippers and costs to hold, move and prepare merchandise for shipment. Shipping and handling costs of \$87, \$78 and \$80 in 2007, 2006 and 2005 were included in selling, general and administrative expenses.

## **Advertising**

Production costs for newspaper, radio and other media are expensed the first time the advertisement is run. Total advertising expenses, net of vendor allowances, were \$101, \$109 and \$122 in 2007, 2006 and 2005.

## Finance Charges and Other, Net

On May 1, 2007, we converted our Nordstrom private label card and co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit card programs into one securitization program. Prior to the transaction, finance charges and other, net consisted primarily

of finance charges and late fees generated by our Nordstrom private label cards and earnings from our investment in asset backed securities and securitization gains and losses, which were both generated from the co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit card program. After the transaction, finance charges and other, net consists primarily of finance charges and late fees generated by our combined Nordstrom private label card and co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit card programs.

40

#### Nordstrom, Inc.

## **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**

Dollar and share amounts in millions except per share and per option amounts

Gift card breakage is another component of finance charges and other, net. Based on an analysis of our program since its inception in 1999, we determined that balances remaining on cards issued beyond five years ago are unlikely to be redeemed and therefore may be recognized as income. Breakage income was \$6, \$5 and \$8 in 2007, 2006 and 2005. This breakage income is approximately 3.7% of the amount initially issued as gift cards.

## **Stock-Based Compensation**

At the start of 2006, we adopted Statement of Financial Accounting Standard No. 123(R), Share-Based Payment (SFAS 123(R)), which revised Statement of Financial Accounting Standard No. 123, Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation (SFAS 123) and superseded APB Opinion No. 25, Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees (APB 25) and related interpretations. SFAS 123(R) requires us to measure the cost of employee and director services received in exchange for an award of equity instruments based on the grant-date fair value of the award.

We adopted SFAS 123(R) using the modified prospective method. Under this transition method, 2006 stock-based compensation expense considers all outstanding options that have not reached their earliest vesting date. In addition, we recognized stock-based compensation expense for our Employee Share Purchase Plan ( ESPP ), as our 10% purchase discount exceeds the amount allowed under SFAS 123(R) for non-compensatory treatment. As provided for under the modified prospective method, we have not restated our results for prior periods.

We recognize stock-based compensation expense on a straight-line basis over the requisite service period. The total compensation expense is reduced by estimated forfeitures expected to occur over the vesting period of the award. When we adopted SFAS 123(R), we elected to use the Binomial Lattice option valuation model. In 2005, we used the Black-Scholes option valuation model to estimate the fair value of the stock options under SFAS 123. Refer to Note 13: Shareholders Equity and Stock Compensation Plans for additional information on our stock option plans and related stock-based compensation expense.

## **Cash Equivalents**

Cash equivalents are short-term investments with a maturity of three months or less from the date of purchase. As of the end of 2007 and 2006, we had \$0 and \$8 restricted cash included in other long-term assets. The restricted cash is held in a trust for use by our Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan and Deferred Compensation Plans. Our cash management system provides for the reimbursement of all major bank disbursement accounts on a daily basis. Accounts payable at the end of 2007 and 2006 included \$46 and \$41 of checks not yet presented for payment drawn in excess of our bank deposit balances.

## **Supplemental Cash Flow Information**

Fiscal year	2007	2006	2005
Cash paid during the year for:			
Interest (net of capitalized interest)	\$75	\$55	\$57
Income taxes	478	449	344

#### **Short-term Investments**

In 2005 and 2006, we invested in short-term investments. In 2006, we sold our short-term investments and used the proceeds primarily for common stock repurchases.

## Securitization of Accounts Receivable and Accounts Receivable

Prior to May 2007, through our wholly owned federal savings bank, Nordstrom fsb, we offered a private label card and two co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit cards. The private label card receivables were held in a trust, which could issue third-party debt that was secured by the private label receivables; the private label program was treated as on-balance sheet, with the receivables, net of bad debt allowance, and debt, if any, recorded on our consolidated balance sheet, the finance charge income recorded in finance charges and other, net, and the bad debt expense recorded in selling, general and administrative expenses.

The co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit card receivables were held in a separate trust (the VISA Trust), which could issue third-party debt that was secured by the co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit card receivables. The co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit card program was treated as off-balance sheet. We recorded the fair value of our interest in the VISA Trust on our consolidated balance sheet, gains on the sale of receivables to the VISA Trust and our share of the VISA Trust s finance income in finance charges and other, net. As of February 3, 2007, the VISA Trust had co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit card receivables with a total face amount of \$908 and had outstanding two series of notes held by third parties: \$200 of 2002 Class A&B notes that matured in April 2007, and \$350 of 2004-2 variable funding notes that were paid in April 2007. In fiscal 2006, the co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit card receivables had an average gross yield of 16.8% and average annual credit losses of 2.8%. The weighted average interest rate on the third-party notes was 5.3%.

Nordstrom, Inc. and subsidiaries 41

#### Nordstrom, Inc.

#### **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**

Dollar and share amounts in millions except per share and per option amounts

On May 1, 2007, we converted the Nordstrom private label cards and co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit card programs into one securitization program, which is accounted for as a secured borrowing (on-balance sheet). When we combined the securitization programs, our investment in asset backed securities, which was accounted for as available-for-sale securities, was eliminated and we reacquired all of the co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit card receivables previously held off-balance sheet. These reacquired co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit card receivables were recorded at fair value at the date of acquisition. We have transitioned the co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit card receivable portfolio to historical cost, net of bad debt allowances, on our consolidated balance sheet. Also on May 1, 2007, the trust issued securities that are backed by substantially all of the Nordstrom private label card receivables and 90% of the co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit card receivables. Under the securitization, the receivables are transferred to a third-party trust on a daily basis. The balance of the receivables transferred to the trust fluctuates as new receivables are generated and old receivables are retired (through payments received, charge-offs, or credits for merchandise returns). These combined receivables back the Series 2007-1 Notes, the Series 2007-2 Notes, and an unused variable funding note that are discussed in Note 8: Long-term debt.

Our credit card securitization agreements set a maximum percentage of receivables that can be associated with various receivable categories, such as employee or foreign receivables. As of February 2, 2008, these maximums were not exceeded.

#### **Merchandise Inventories**

Merchandise inventories are valued at the lower of cost or market, using the retail method (weighted average cost).

## Land, Buildings and Equipment

Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method. Estimated useful lives by major asset category are as follows:

Asset	Life (in years)
Buildings and improvements	5-40
Store fixtures and equipment	3-15
Leasehold improvements	Shorter of initial lease term or asset
	life
Software	3-7

## **Intangible Asset Impairment Testing**

We review our goodwill annually for impairment in the first quarter or when circumstances indicate the carrying value of these assets may not be recoverable. We removed the goodwill of \$28 and acquired tradename of \$84 associated with our Façonnable business from our consolidated balance sheet when we sold that business in the third quarter of 2007. In association with our May 2007 increase in ownership of Jeffrey, we recorded \$29 of goodwill. As of the end of 2007, we believe no indicators of impairment exist.

#### Leases

We recognize lease expense, net of landlord reimbursements, on a straight-line basis over the minimum lease term from the time that we control the leased property.

We lease the land or the land and buildings at many of our full-line stores, and we lease the buildings at many of our Rack stores. Additionally, we lease office facilities, warehouses and equipment. Most of these leases are classified as operating leases and they expire at various dates through 2080. We have no significant individual or master lease agreements.

Our fixed, noncancelable lease terms generally are 20 to 30 years for full-line stores and 10 to 15 years for Rack stores. Many of our leases include options that allow us to extend the lease term beyond the initial commitment period, subject to terms agreed to at lease inception.

For leases that contain predetermined, fixed escalations of the minimum rent, we recognize the rent expense on a straight-line basis and record the difference between the rent expense and the rent payable as a liability.

Most of our leases also provide for payment of operating expenses, such as common area charges, real estate taxes and other executory costs. Some leases require additional payments based on sales and are recorded in rent expense when the contingent rent is probable.

Leasehold improvements made at the inception of the lease are amortized over the shorter of the asset life or the initial lease term as described above. Leasehold improvements made during the lease term are also amortized over the shorter of the asset life or the remaining lease term.

We receive incentives to construct stores in certain developments. These incentives are recorded as a deferred credit and recognized as a reduction to rent expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term as described above. At the end of 2007 and 2006, this deferred credit balance was \$408 and \$392. Also, we may receive incentives based on a store s net sales; we recognize these incentives in the year that they are earned as a reduction of rent expense.

#### **Table of Contents**

#### Nordstrom, Inc.

## **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**

Dollar and share amounts in millions except per share and per option amounts

## **Foreign Currency Translation**

As of the end of 2007, we no longer own any material foreign subsidiaries, and so no longer recognize any foreign currency translation in accumulated other comprehensive earnings. Prior to the sale of the Façonnable business in the third quarter of 2007, the assets and liabilities of our foreign subsidiaries were translated to U.S. dollars using the exchange rates effective on the balance sheet date, while income and expense accounts were translated at the average rates in effect during the year. The resulting translation adjustments were recorded in accumulated other comprehensive earnings.

## **Income Taxes**

We use the asset and liability method of accounting for income taxes. Using this method, deferred tax assets and liabilities are recorded based on differences between financial reporting and tax basis of assets and liabilities. The deferred tax assets and liabilities are calculated using the enacted tax rates and laws that are expected to be in effect when the differences are expected to reverse. We establish valuation allowances for tax benefits when we believe it is not likely that the related expense will be deductible for tax purposes.

Effective February 4, 2007, we adopted Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Interpretation No. 48, *Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes* (FIN 48). FIN 48 clarifies the accounting for uncertainty in income taxes recognized in financial statements in accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 109, *Accounting for Income Taxes*. In accordance with FIN 48, we regularly evaluate the likelihood of recognizing the benefit for income tax positions we have taken in various federal, state, and foreign filings by considering all relevant facts, circumstances, and information available. For those benefits we believe more likely than not will be sustained, we recognize the largest amount we believe is cumulatively greater than 50% likely to be realized.

## **Other Current Liabilities**

Included in other current liabilities were gift card liabilities of \$188 and \$172 at the end of 2007 and 2006.

#### **Lovalty Program**

Customers who reach a cumulative purchase threshold when using our Nordstrom private label cards or our co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit cards receive Nordstrom Notes®. These Nordstrom Notes can be redeemed for goods or services in our stores. We estimate the net cost of the Nordstrom Notes that will be issued and redeemed and record this cost as rewards points are accumulated. In addition to this long-standing benefit, in April 2007 we launched an enhanced loyalty program, Fashion Rewards<sup>TM</sup>. Under this program, Nordstrom customers receive higher levels of cumulative benefits based on their annual spend. We record the cost of the loyalty program benefits in cost of sales and selling, general and administrative expenses. These expenses are recorded based on estimates of benefits expected to be accumulated and redeemed in relation to sales.

## **Vendor Allowances**

We receive allowances from merchandise vendors for cosmetic selling expenses, purchase price adjustments, cooperative advertising programs, and vendor sponsored contests. Allowances for cosmetic selling expenses are recorded in selling, general and administrative expenses as a reduction to the related cost when incurred. Purchase price adjustments are recorded as a reduction of cost of sales at the point they have been earned and the related merchandise has been sold. Allowances for cooperative advertising and promotion programs and vendor sponsored contests are recorded in cost of sales and selling, general and administrative expenses as a reduction to the related cost when incurred. Any allowances in excess of actual costs incurred that are recorded in selling, general and administrative expenses are recorded as a reduction to cost of sales. The following table shows vendor allowances earned during the year:

Fiscal year	2007	2006	2005
Cosmetic selling expenses	\$120	\$121	\$107
Purchase price adjustments	86	70	58

Edgar Filing: NORDSTROM INC - Form 10-K

Cooperative advertising and promotion	61	67	58
Vendor sponsored contests	2	3	4
Total vendor allowances	\$269	\$261	\$227

Allowances were recorded in our consolidated statements of earnings as follows:

Fiscal year	2007	2006	2005
Cost of sales Selling, general and administrative expenses	\$146 123	\$138 123	\$118 109
<b>Total vendor allowances</b>	\$269	\$261	\$227

## **Fair Value of Financial Instruments**

The carrying amounts of cash equivalents approximate fair value. See Note 8: Long-term debt for the fair values of our long-term debt and interest rate swap agreement.

Nordstrom, Inc. and subsidiaries 43

## **Table of Contents**

#### Nordstrom, Inc.

## **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**

Dollar and share amounts in millions except per share and per option amounts

## **Derivatives Policy**

We periodically enter into foreign currency purchase orders denominated in Euros for apparel, accessories and shoes. We use forward contracts to hedge against fluctuations in foreign currency prices. These forward contracts do not qualify for derivative hedge accounting. The notional amounts of our foreign currency forward contracts at the contract rates were \$10 at the end of both 2007 and 2006. We also use derivative financial instruments to manage our interest rate risks. See Note 8: Long-term debt for a further description of our interest rate swap.

## **Recent Accounting Pronouncements**

In September 2006, the FASB issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 157, *Fair Value Measurements* (SFAS 157). SFAS 157 defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value, and expands disclosures about fair value measurements. In February 2008, the FASB issued FASB Staff Position No. FAS 157-1 (FSP FAS 157-1) and FASB Staff Position No. FAS 157-2, (FSP FAS 157-2), affecting implementation of SFAS 157. FSP FAS 157-1 excludes FASB Statement No. 13, *Accounting for Leases* (SFAS 13), and other accounting pronouncements that address fair value measurements under SFAS 13, from the scope of SFAS 157. FSP FAS 157-2 delays the effective date of SFAS 157 for nonfinancial assets and nonfinancial liabilities, except for items that are recognized or disclosed at fair value on a recurring basis, to fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2008. For all other items, SFAS 157 was effective for Nordstrom as of February 3, 2008. We have adopted SFAS 157 as amended by FSP FAS 157-1 and FSP FAS 157-2 as of February 3, 2008. This adoption will not have a material effect on our consolidated financial statements.

In February 2007, the FASB issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 159, *The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities* (SFAS 159). SFAS 159 permits entities to choose to measure many financial instruments and certain other items at fair value. SFAS 159 was effective for Nordstrom as of February 3, 2008. We did not apply the fair value option to any of our outstanding instruments; therefore, SFAS 159 will have no effect on our consolidated financial statements.

In December 2007, the FASB issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 141 (Revised 2007), *Business Combinations* (SFAS 141(R)). SFAS 141(R) will significantly change the accounting for business combinations. Under SFAS 141(R), an acquiring entity will be required to recognize all the assets acquired and liabilities assumed in a transaction at the acquisition-date fair value with limited exceptions. SFAS 141(R) will change the accounting treatment for certain specific acquisition-related items, including expensing acquisition-related costs as incurred, valuing noncontrolling interests (minority interests) at fair value at the acquisition date, and expensing restructuring costs associated with an acquired business. SFAS 141(R) also includes a substantial number of new disclosure requirements. SFAS 141(R) is to be applied prospectively to business combinations for which the acquisition date is on or after January 1, 2009. Early adoption is not permitted. Generally, the effect of SFAS 141(R) will depend on future acquisitions.

Also in December 2007, the FASB issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 160, *Noncontrolling Interests in Consolidated Financial Statements* an amendment of ARB No. 51 (SFAS 160). SFAS 160 establishes new accounting and reporting standards for noncontrolling interest (minority interest) in a subsidiary, provides guidance on the accounting for and reporting of the deconsolidation of a subsidiary, and increases transparency through expanded disclosures. Specifically, SFAS 160 requires the recognition of minority interest as equity in the consolidated financial statements and separate from the parent company s equity. It also requires consolidated net earnings in the consolidated statement of earnings to include the amount of net earnings attributable to minority interest. This statement will be effective for Nordstrom as of the beginning of fiscal year 2009. Early adoption is not permitted. We are presently evaluating the impact of the adoption of SFAS 160 and believe there will be no material impact on our consolidated financial statements.

## NOTE 2: SALE OF FAÇONNABLE

During the third quarter of 2007, we completed the sale of our Façonnable business in exchange for cash of \$216, net of transaction costs. As part of this transaction, goodwill of \$28, acquired tradename of \$84, and foreign currency

translation of \$16 were removed from our consolidated balance sheet and we recorded a gain of \$34. Upon the closing of this transaction, we entered into a Transition Services Agreement, whereby we will continue to provide certain back office functions related to the Façonnable U.S. wholesale business for a limited amount of time as part of a transition period. We additionally entered into a Minimum Purchase Agreement with the Façonnable U.S. wholesale business whereby we committed to purchase \$246 of Façonnable inventory over the next three years which approximates our normal buying level.

## **NOTE 3: ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE**

The components of accounts receivable are as follows:

	February 2, 2008	February 3, 2007
Trade receivables:		
Unrestricted	\$18	\$44
Restricted	1,760	582
Allowance for doubtful accounts	(73)	(17)
Trade receivables, net	1,705	609
Other	83	75
Accounts receivable, net	\$1,788	\$684

44

#### Nordstrom, Inc.

## **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**

Dollar and share amounts in millions except per share and per option amounts The following table summarizes the restricted trade receivables:

	February 2, 2008	February 3, 2007
Private label card receivables Co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit card	\$630	\$582
receivables	1,130	
Restricted trade receivables	\$1,760	\$582

As of February 2, 2008, the restricted trade receivables relate to substantially all of our Nordstrom private label and co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit card receivables. These restricted trade receivables back the Series 2007-1 Notes, the Series 2007-2 Notes, and the variable funding notes discussed in Note 8: Long-term debt. At February 3, 2007, the restricted trade receivables were our Nordstrom private label card receivables, which backed our previously existing variable funding note.

The unrestricted trade receivables consist primarily of the remaining portion of our Nordstrom private label and co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit card receivables and accrued finance charges not yet allocated to customer accounts. As of February 3, 2007, the unrestricted trade receivables also included receivables related to the Façonnable business.

Other accounts receivable consist primarily of credit card receivables due from third-party financial institutions and vendor rebates.

# NOTE 4: INVESTMENT IN ASSET BACKED SECURITIES CO-BRANDED NORDSTROM VISA CREDIT CARD RECEIVABLES

Prior to the securitization transaction discussed in Note 1, our co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit card program was treated as an investment in asset backed securities. As previously discussed, as of February 2, 2008, our consolidated balance sheet does not include an investment in asset backed securities. The following table represents the co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit card receivable balances and the estimated fair value of our investment in asset backed securities prior to the transaction:

	February 3, 2007
Total face value of co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit card principal receivables	\$908
Securities issued by the VISA Trust: Off-balance sheet (sold to third parties):	
2002 Class A & B Notes	\$200
2004-2 Variable funding notes	350
	\$550
Amounts recorded on consolidated balance sheet:	
Investment in asset backed securities at fair value	\$428

The following table presents the key assumptions we used to value the investment in asset backed securities prior to the transaction:

	February 3, 2007
Assumptions used to estimate the fair value of the investment in	
asset backed securities:	
Weighted average remaining life (in months)	7.5
Average annual credit losses	5.7%
Average gross yield	16.8%
Weighted average coupon on issued securities	5.3%
Average monthly payment rates	8.0%
Discount rate on investment in asset backed securities	7.3% to 11.5%

The discount rate on asset backed securities represented the volatility and risk of the asset. Our discount rates considered both the current interest rate environment and credit spreads.

Nordstrom, Inc. and subsidiaries 45

#### Nordstrom, Inc.

#### **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**

Dollar and share amounts in millions except per share and per option amounts

The following table summarizes certain income, expenses and cash flows received from and paid to the VISA Trust prior to the transaction:

	3 months		
	ended	12 months ended	
		February	January 28,
Period	May 1, 2007	3, 2007	2006
Principal collections reinvested in new			
receivables	\$819	\$3,094	\$2,597
Gains on sales of receivables	3	20	20
Income earned on beneficial interests	21	75	54
Cash flows (used in) provided by			
beneficial interests:			
Investment in asset backed securities	(457)	494	130
Servicing fees	2	16	13

Net credit losses were \$9, \$22 and \$25 for 2007, 2006 and 2005, and receivables past due for more than 30 days were \$16 at the end of 2006.

## NOTE 5: LAND, BUILDINGS AND EQUIPMENT

Land, buildings and equipment consist of the following:

	February 2, 2008	February 3, 2007
Land and land improvements	\$65	\$65
Buildings and building improvements	842	812
Leasehold improvements	1,313	1,269
Store fixtures and equipment	1,995	1,984
Software	303	285
Construction in progress	391	132
	4,909	4,547
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization	(2,926)	(2,790)
Land, buildings and equipment, net	\$1,983	\$1,757

The total cost of buildings and equipment held under capital lease obligations was \$28 and \$20, at the end of 2007 and 2006, with related accumulated amortization of \$20 and \$17. The amortization of capitalized leased buildings and equipment of \$1 in both 2007 and 2006 was recorded in depreciation expense.

#### **NOTE 6: EMPLOYEE BENEFITS**

We provide a 401(k) and profit sharing plan for our employees. Our Board of Directors establishes our profit sharing contribution each year. The 401(k) component is funded by voluntary employee contributions and our matching contributions up to a fixed percentage of employee contributions. Our expense related to the profit sharing component and matching contributions to the 401(k) component totaled \$50, \$73 and \$67 in 2007, 2006 and 2005.

#### Nordstrom, Inc.

## **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**

Dollar and share amounts in millions except per share and per option amounts

#### **NOTE 7: INCOME TAXES**

Effective February 4, 2007, we adopted Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Interpretation No. 48, *Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes* (FIN 48). FIN 48 clarifies the accounting for uncertainty in income taxes recognized in financial statements in accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 109, *Accounting for Income Taxes*. FIN 48 prescribes a recognition threshold and measurement attribute for the financial statement recognition and measurement of a tax position taken or expected to be taken in a tax return. FIN 48 also provides guidance on derecognition, classification, interest and penalties, accounting in interim periods, disclosure and transition.

The cumulative effect of adopting FIN 48 resulted in an increase to our liability for uncertain tax positions of \$3, which reduced the beginning balance of retained earnings. Upon adoption we had approximately \$21 of gross unrecognized tax benefits, of which \$7 relates to deferred items which, if recognized, would not impact the effective tax rate.

A reconciliation of the beginning and ending amount of unrecognized tax benefits is as follows:

Balance at February 4, 2007	\$21
Gross increase to tax positions in prior periods	5
Gross decrease to tax positions in prior periods	(1)
Gross increase to tax positions in current period	3
Lapse of statute	(1)
Settlements	
Balance at February 2, 2008	<b>\$27</b>

Unrecognized tax benefits related to federal, state and foreign tax positions may decrease by \$1 by January 31, 2009, if years close and audits are completed during 2008.

Of the \$27 ending gross unrecognized tax benefit balance, \$9 relates to deferred items which, if recognized, would not impact the effective tax rate.

Interest and penalties related to income tax matters are classified as a component of income tax expense. The estimate for accrued interest and penalties upon adoption was \$1. During 2007, our income tax expense included \$3 of tax-related interest and penalties. At the end of 2007, our liability for interest and penalties was \$4.

We file income tax returns in the U.S. federal and various state jurisdictions. We also file returns in France and several other foreign jurisdictions. With few exceptions, we are no longer subject to U.S. federal, state and local, or non-U.S. income tax examinations for years before 2002. Our U.S. federal filings for the years 2002 through 2006 are under routine examination and that process is anticipated to be completed before the end of 2008. The completion and ultimate settlement of these IRS audit years is expected to be a refund and will not have a material impact on our gross unrecognized tax benefits. Additionally, the U.S. federal tax return for 2007 is under concurrent year processing, which is expected to be completed in 2009. We also currently have an active examination in France for the years 2001 through 2004.

Income tax expense consists of the following:

Fiscal year	2007	2006	2005
Current income taxes:			
Federal	\$435	\$423	\$312
State and local	65	63	38

Edgar Filing: NORDSTROM INC - Form 10-K

Total current income tax expense	500	486	350
Deferred income taxes:			
Current	(24)	(10)	(7)
Non-current	(18)	(48)	(9)
Total deferred income tax benefit	(42)	(58)	(16)
Total income tax expense	\$458	\$428	\$334

A reconciliation of the statutory Federal income tax rate to the effective tax rate on earnings before income taxes is as follows:

Fiscal year	2007	2006	2005
Statutory rate State and local income taxes, net of federal income	35.0%	35.0%	35.0%
taxes	3.4	3.2	3.2
Other, net	0.6	0.5	(0.5)
Effective tax rate	39.0%	38.7%	37.7%

Nordstrom, Inc. and subsidiaries 47

## Nordstrom, Inc.

## **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**

Dollar and share amounts in millions except per share and per option amounts

Deferred income taxes reflect the net tax effect of temporary differences between amounts recorded for financial reporting purposes and amounts used for tax purposes. The major components of deferred tax assets and liabilities are as follows:

	February 2, 2008	February 3, 2007
Compensation and benefits accruals	\$105	\$ 86
Accrued expenses	56	52
Merchandise inventories	28	25
Securitization		24
Land, buildings and equipment basis and depreciation		
differences		15
Gift cards and gift certificates	15	13
Loyalty reward certificates	10	9
Allowance on accounts receivables	28	6
Federal benefit of state taxes	9	
Other	13	
Total deferred tax assets	264	230
Land, buildings and equipment basis and depreciation		
differences	<b>(4)</b>	
Other		(8)
Total deferred tax liabilities	(4)	(8)
Net deferred tax assets	\$260	\$222

## **NOTE 8: LONG-TERM DEBT**

We hold both secured and unsecured debt. The primary collateral for our secured debt is our Nordstrom private label card and co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit card receivables. A summary of long-term debt is as follows:

	February 2, 2008	February 3, 2007
Secured		
Series 2007-1 Class A Notes, 4.92%, due April 2010	\$326	
Series 2007-1 Class B Notes, 5.02%, due April 2010	24	
Series 2007-2 Class A Notes, one-month LIBOR plus		
0.06% per year, due April 2012	454	
Series 2007-2 Class B Notes, one-month LIBOR plus		
0.18% per year, due April 2012	46	
Mortgage payable, 7.68%, due April 2020	67	\$70
Other	19	14
	936	84

Unsecured		
Senior notes, 5.625%, due January 2009	250	250
Senior notes, 6.25%, due January 2018, net of		
unamortized discount	646	
Senior debentures, 6.95%, due March 2028	300	300
Senior notes, 7.00%, due January 2038, net of		
unamortized discount	342	
Other	22	6
Fair market value of interest rate swap	1	(9)
	1,561	547
Total long-term debt	2,497	631
Less current portion	(261)	(7)
Total due beyond one year	\$2,236	\$624

Both the Series 2007-1 Class A & B Notes and the Series 2007-2 Class A & B Notes are secured by substantially all of the Nordstrom private label card receivables and a 90% interest in the co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit card receivables.

Our mortgage payable is secured by an office building which had a net book value of \$86 at the end of 2007. Other secured and unsecured debt consists primarily of capital lease obligations and liabilities related to the acquisition of Jeffrey.

During the fourth quarter of 2007, we issued \$650 aggregate principal amount, net of discount of \$4, of 6.25% senior unsecured notes due 2018 and \$350 aggregate principal amount, net of discount of \$8, of 7.00% senior unsecured notes due 2038 before expenses.

48

#### Nordstrom, Inc.

## **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**

Dollar and share amounts in millions except per share and per option amounts

During the first quarter of 2007, we entered into an agreement for a new variable funding facility (2007-A Variable Funding Note) backed by substantially all of the Nordstrom private label card receivables and a 90% interest in the co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit card receivables with a commitment of \$300. Borrowings under the facility incur interest based upon the cost of commercial paper issued by the third-party bank conduit plus specified fees. During the third quarter of 2007, we used this facility to issue \$220 in Notes and paid the outstanding balance in the third and fourth quarters of 2007. We pay a commitment fee for the note based on the size of the commitment and the amount of borrowings outstanding. Commitment fee rates decrease if more than \$50 is outstanding on the facility. The facility can be cancelled or not renewed if our debt ratings fall below Standard and Poor s BB+ rating or Moody s Ba1 rating. Our current rating by Standard and Poor s is A-, four grades above BB+, and by Moody s is Baa1, three grades above Ba1.

During the third quarter of 2007, we entered into an agreement for an additional new variable funding facility backed by the remaining 10% interest in the co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit card receivables with a commitment of \$100. As of February 2, 2008, no issuances have been made against this facility. Borrowings under this facility incur interest based upon the cost of commercial paper issued by the third-party bank conduit plus specified fees.

To manage our interest rate risk, we have an interest rate swap outstanding recorded in prepaid expenses and other. Our swap has a \$250 notional amount, expires in January 2009, and is designated as a fully effective fair value hedge. Under the agreement, we receive a fixed rate of 5.63% and pay a variable rate based on LIBOR plus a margin of 2.3% set at six-month intervals (5.32% at February 2, 2008).

We maintain a \$500 unsecured line of credit, which is available as liquidity support for our commercial paper program described below. Under the terms of the agreement, we pay a variable rate of interest and a commitment fee based on our debt rating. Based upon our current debt rating, we pay a variable rate of interest of LIBOR plus a margin of 0.225% (3.24% at February 2, 2008) on the outstanding balance and an annual commitment fee of 0.075% on the total capacity. The variable rate of interest increases to LIBOR plus a margin of 0.325% if more than \$250 is outstanding on the facility. The line of credit expires in November 2010, and contains restrictive covenants, which include maintaining a leverage ratio. We made no borrowings under this line of credit during 2007 or 2006.

During the third quarter of 2007, we entered into a new commercial paper dealer agreement, supported by our unsecured line of credit. Under this commercial paper program, we may issue commercial paper in an aggregate amount outstanding at any particular time not to exceed \$500. This agreement allows us to use the proceeds to fund share repurchases as well as operating cash requirements. Under the terms of the commercial paper agreement, we pay a rate of interest based on, among other factors, the maturity of the issuance and market conditions. The issuance of commercial paper has the effect, while it is outstanding, of reducing our borrowing capacity under the line of credit by an amount equal to the principal amount of the commercial paper. As of February 2, 2008, we have no outstanding issuances of commercial paper.

The fair value of long-term debt, including current maturities, using quoted market prices of the same or similar issues, was \$2,514 and \$667 at the end of 2007 and 2006.

Required principal payments on long-term debt, excluding capital lease obligations and the fair market value of the interest rate swap, are as follows:

Fiscal year	
2008	\$258
2009	22
2010	355
2011	5
2012	505
Thereafter	1,336

The components of interest expense, net are as follows:

Fiscal year	2007	2006	2005
Interest expense on long-term debt	\$102	\$63	\$63
Less:			
Interest income	(16)	(15)	(13)
Capitalized interest	(12)	(5)	(5)
Interest expense, net	\$74	\$43	\$45

Nordstrom, Inc. and subsidiaries 49

Nordstrom, Inc.

## **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**

Dollar and share amounts in millions except per share and per option amounts

**NOTE 9: LEASES** 

Future minimum lease payments as of February 2, 2008 are as follows:

Fiscal year	Capital Leases	Operating Leases
2008	\$3	\$69
2009	3	71
2010	2	67
2011	2	62
2012	2	49
Thereafter	11	260
Total minimum lease payments	23	\$578
Less amount representing interest	(8)	
Present value of net minimum lease payments	\$15	

Rent expense for 2007, 2006 and 2005 are as follows:

Fiscal year	2007	2006	2005
Minimum rent:			
Store locations	<b>\$67</b>	\$67	\$62
Offices, warehouses and equipment	14	15	15
Percentage rent store locations	14	12	11
Property incentives store locations	(47)	(46)	(47)
Total rent expense	\$48	\$48	\$41

The rent expense above does not include common area maintenance costs of \$19 in 2007 and \$16 in both 2006 and 2005.

#### **NOTE 10: SELF INSURANCE**

We retain a portion of the risk for certain losses related to health and welfare, workers compensation and general liability claims. Liabilities associated with these losses include estimates of both losses reported and losses incurred but not yet reported. We estimate our ultimate cost based on analysis of historical data and independent actuarial estimates.

**Health and Welfare** We are self insured for our health and welfare coverage and we do not use stop-loss coverage. Participants contribute to the cost of their coverage and are subject to certain plan limits and deductibles. Our health and welfare reserve was \$14 and \$15 at the end of 2007 and 2006.

**Workers Compensation** We have a retention per claim of \$1 or less and no policy limits. Our workers compensation reserve was \$53 and \$56 at the end of 2007 and 2006 and our expense was \$15, \$21 and \$13 in 2007, 2006 and 2005.

**General Liability** Our General Liability encompasses two types of losses Employment Practices Liability and Commercial General Liability. We have a retention per claim of \$1 or less and a policy limit up to \$25 and \$150, respectively. Our general liability insurance reserve was \$10 at the end of both 2007 and 2006.

## **NOTE 11: POST-RETIREMENT BENEFITS**

We have an unfunded Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan (SERP), which provides retirement benefits to certain officers and select employees. This plan is non-qualified and does not have a minimum funding requirement. Effective February 3, 2007, we adopted Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 158, *Employers Accounting for Defined Benefit Pension and Other Postretirement Plans* (SFAS 158). The impact of the adoption of SFAS 158 is reflected within our consolidated financial statements as of February 3, 2007. SFAS 158 requires the recognition of a plan s overfunded or underfunded status as an asset or liability in the consolidated balance sheet and the recognition of changes in that funded status in the year in which the changes occur through comprehensive income.

50

## Nordstrom, Inc.

## **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**

Dollar and share amounts in millions except per share and per option amounts The following table reflects the effects of the adoption of SFAS 158 on our consolidated balance sheet as of February 3, 2007.

	Before		After
	Application	$\mathbf{A}_{\mathbf{l}}$	pplication
	of		of
	Statement	9	Statement
	A458st	ments	158
Other assets	\$185	\$2	<b>\$187</b>
Total assets	4,820	2	4,822
Other liabilities	228	12	240
Accumulated other comprehensive earnings (loss), net	1	(10)	<b>(9</b> )
Total shareholders equity	2,179	(10)	2,169
Total liabilities and shareholders equity	\$4,820	\$2	\$4,822

Amounts not yet reflected in net periodic benefit cost and included in accumulated other comprehensive earnings (pre-tax) included prior service cost of \$(3) and \$(4) and accumulated loss of \$(28) and \$(39) at the end of 2007 and 2006.

The change in benefit obligation and plan assets for 2007 and 2006 are as follows:

	February 2, <b>2008</b>	February 3, 2007
Change in benefit obligation:		
Benefit obligation at beginning of year	\$98	\$91
Participant service cost	3	2
Interest cost	6	6
Benefits paid	(4)	(3)
Actuarial (gain)/loss	(8)	2
Benefit obligation at end of year	<b>\$95</b>	\$98
Change in plan assets:		
Fair value of plan assets at beginning of year		
Employer contribution	<b>\$4</b>	\$3
Distributions	(4)	(3)
Fair value of plan assets at end of year		
Underfunded status	<b>\$(95)</b>	\$(98)

The accumulated benefit obligation was \$86 at February 2, 2008 and at February 3, 2007. Amounts recognized as liabilities in the consolidated balance sheets consist of:

February 2,	February 3,
2008	2007

Edgar Filing: NORDSTROM INC - Form 10-K

Current liabilities	<b>\$5</b>	\$5
Noncurrent liabilities	90	93
Net amount recognized	<b>\$95</b>	\$98

The components of SERP expense are as follows:

Fiscal year	2007	2006	2005
Participant service cost	\$2	\$2	\$2
Interest cost	6	6	5
Amortization of net loss	3	3	2
Amortization of prior service cost	1	1	1
<b>Total expense</b>	\$12	\$12	\$10

Nordstrom, Inc. and subsidiaries 51

#### Nordstrom, Inc.

#### **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**

Dollar and share amounts in millions except per share and per option amounts

Weighted-average assumptions used to determine benefit obligation and net periodic benefit cost are as follows:

Fiscal year	2007	2006	2005
Assumption percentages used to determine benefit obligation:			
Discount rate	6.35%	6.00%	6.00%
Rate of compensation increase	3.00%	4.00%	4.00%
Assumption percentages used to determine net periodic benefit cost:			
Discount rate	6.00%	6.00%	6.00%
Rate of compensation increase	4.00%	4.00%	4.00%
Measurement date	10/31/07	10/31/06	10/31/05

In accordance with SFAS 158, beginning in fiscal 2008, we will measure our benefit obligation as of our fiscal year-end. We do not believe the impact will be material.

We used a discount rate for 2007 that was determined by constructing a hypothetical bond portfolio based on bonds available on October 31, 2007 rated AA or better by either Moody s or Standard & Poor s. This assumption was built to match the expected benefit payments under the SERP. The discount rate changed from 6.00% to 6.35% to reflect the current interest rate environment.

In 2007, we updated the post-retirement mortality table to better reflect plan experience. In addition, we updated our assumptions relating to bonus payments.

As of October 31, 2007, the expected future benefit payments based upon the assumptions described above and including benefits attributable to future employee service for the following periods are as follows:

Fiscal year	
2008	\$5
2009	5
2010	5
2011	5
2012	5
2013-2017	35

In 2008, we expect \$3 of costs currently in accumulated other comprehensive earnings to be recognized as components of net periodic benefit cost. This cost includes \$1 for prior service cost and \$2 for accumulated loss. We expect to make contributions to the plan of \$5.

## NOTE 12: COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

We are involved in routine claims, proceedings and litigation arising in the normal course of our business. We do not believe any such claim, proceeding or litigation, either alone or in aggregate, will have a material impact on our results of operations, financial position or liquidity.

During the third quarter, we entered into a Minimum Purchase Agreement with the Façonnable U.S. wholesale business whereby we committed to purchase \$246 of Façonnable inventory over the next three years. As of February 2, 2008, we have purchased \$31 under the agreement. Our estimated total purchase obligations, capital expenditure contractual commitments and inventory purchase orders were \$1,382 as of February 2, 2008, including

the remaining balance of \$215 under the Minimum Purchase Agreement.

In connection with the purchase of foreign merchandise, we have outstanding import letters of credit totaling \$8 as of February 2, 2008.

52

#### Nordstrom, Inc.

## **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**

Dollar and share amounts in millions except per share and per option amounts

## NOTE 13: SHAREHOLDERS EQUITY AND STOCK COMPENSATION PLANS

## **Share Repurchase Program**

In February 2005, our Board of Directors authorized \$500 of share repurchases. Overall for 2005, we purchased 8 shares for \$287 at an average price of \$33.80 per share. We utilized the remaining authorization of \$213 in the first quarter of 2006, purchasing 6 shares at an average price of \$39.27 per share.

Our Board of Directors authorized an additional \$1,000 of share repurchases in May 2006. During the remainder of 2006, we repurchased 11 shares for \$409 as part of this authorization, at an average price of \$36.74.

During the first half of 2007 we repurchased 11 shares for \$590 as part of the existing authorization from May 2006, including \$300 repurchased as part of an accelerated share repurchase program. In May 2007, we entered into an accelerated share repurchase agreement with Credit Suisse International to repurchase shares of our common stock for an aggregate purchase price of \$300. We purchased 5 shares of our common stock on May 23, 2007 at \$55.17 per share. Under the terms of the agreement, we received less than one share in June 2007 at no additional cost, based on the volume weighted average price of our common stock from June 1, 2007 to June 26, 2007. This resulted in an average price per share of \$51.69 for the accelerated share repurchase as a whole.

In August 2007, our Board of Directors authorized a \$1,500 share repurchase program. In November 2007, our Board of Directors authorized an increase of \$1,000 to the share repurchase program. During the second half of 2007, we purchased 28 shares for \$1,137 at an average price of \$41.05, using the remaining \$1 on the May 2006 authorization and beginning to use the August and November 2007 authorizations. As of February 2, 2008 the unused authorization was \$1,364. Repurchases under the program may be made through the end of 2009. The actual amount and timing of future share repurchases will be subject to market conditions and applicable SEC rules.

#### Dividends

In 2007, we paid dividends of \$0.54 per share. We paid dividends of \$0.42 and \$0.32 in 2006 and 2005.

#### **Stock Compensation Plans**

We currently grant stock options, performance share units and common shares under our 2004 Equity Incentive Plan. The following table summarizes our stock-based compensation expense:

Fiscal year	2007	2006	2005
Stock options	\$23	\$27	
Employee stock purchase plan	2	2	
Performance share units	(1)	7	\$12
Other	2	1	1
Total stock-based compensation expense before income tax benefit	26	37	13
Income tax benefit	(9)	(13)	(5)
Total stock-based compensation expense, net of income tax benefit	<b>\$17</b>	\$24	\$8

The stock-based compensation expense before income tax benefit was recorded in our consolidated statements of earnings as follows:

Fiscal year	2007	2006	2005
Cost of sales and related buying and occupancy costs	<b>\$10</b>	\$12	
Selling, general and administrative expenses	16	25	\$13

## Total stock-based compensation expense before income tax benefit \$26 \$37 \$13

Prior to the adoption of Financial Accounting Standard No. 123(R), *Share-Based Payment* (SFAS 123(R)), we applied APB Opinion No. 25, *Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees* (APB 25) to measure compensation costs for our stock-based compensation programs. Under APB 25, we recorded no compensation expense for stock options granted to employees and directors because the options—strike price was equal to the closing market price of our common stock on the grant date. Also, in 2005 we recorded no compensation expense in connection with our Employee Stock Purchase Plan (ESPP). In 2005, we presented the effect on net earnings and earnings per share of the fair value provisions of Statement of Financial Accounting Standard No. 123, *Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation* (SFAS 123) in the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

Nordstrom, Inc. and subsidiaries 53

#### Nordstrom, Inc.

## **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**

Dollar and share amounts in millions except per share and per option amounts

The following table illustrates the effect on net earnings and earnings per share if we had applied the fair value recognition provisions of SFAS 123 in 2005:

Fiscal year	2005
Net earnings, as reported	\$551
Add: stock-based compensation expense	0
included in reported net earnings, net of tax  Deduct: stock-based compensation expense	8
determined under fair value, net of tax	(25)
Pro forma net earnings	\$534
Pro forma net earnings  Earnings per share:	\$534
	<b>\$534</b> \$2.03
Earnings per share:	·
Earnings per share: Basic-as reported	\$2.03

Prior to the adoption of SFAS 123(R), we classified all tax benefits resulting from the exercise of stock options and ESPP as operating cash inflows. SFAS 123(R) requires the benefits of tax deductions in excess of the compensation cost recognized for those awards to be classified as financing cash inflows rather than operating cash inflows, on a prospective basis. This amount is shown as Excess tax benefit from stock-based payments in the consolidated statement of cash flows and was \$26 and \$38 in 2007 and 2006.

#### STOCK OPTIONS

In 2005, we used the Black-Scholes option valuation model to estimate the fair value of the stock options under SFAS 123. When we adopted SFAS 123(R), we elected to use the Binomial Lattice option valuation model. We believe that this model provides a better estimate of fair value than the Black-Scholes option valuation model, as it can accommodate variability in assumptions for expected volatility, dividends and risk-free interest rates. We used the following assumptions to estimate the fair value for stock options at grant date:

		F &	
Fiscal year	2007	2006	2

Fiscal year	2007	2006	2005
Risk-free interest rate	4.6% - 4.7%	4.9% - 5.1%	3.9%
Volatility	35.0%	37.0%	44.3%
Dividend yield	1.0%	1.0%	1.7%
Expected life in years	5.7	5.4	5.0

The weighted average fair value per option at the grant date was \$20, \$16 and \$10 in 2007, 2006 and 2005. The following describes the significant assumptions used to estimate the fair value of options granted:

Risk-free interest rate: For 2007 and 2006, the rate represents the yield on U.S. Treasury zero-coupon securities that mature over the 10-year life of the stock options. For 2005, the rate was the yield on the U.S. Treasury zero-coupon securities which matured near the end of the expected life of the stock options.

Expected volatility: For 2007 and 2006, the expected volatility is based on a combination of the historical volatility of our common stock and the implied volatility of exchange traded options for our common stock. For 2005, the expected volatility was estimated using the historical volatility of our common stock.

Expected dividend yield: For 2007 and 2006, the yield is our forecasted dividend yield for the next ten years. In 2005, the expected dividend yield was based on our historical dividend yield.

Expected life in years: The expected life represents the estimated period of time until option exercise. For 2007 and 2006, the expected term of options granted was derived from the output of the Binomial Lattice option valuation model and was based on our historical exercise behavior taking into consideration the contractual term of the option and our employees expected exercise and post-vesting employment termination behavior. For 2005, the expected life was determined based on our historical exercise behavior.

54

#### Nordstrom, Inc.

## **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**

Dollar and share amounts in millions except per share and per option amounts

As of February 2, 2008, we have options outstanding under two stock option plans (collectively, the Nordstrom, Inc. Plans ). Options vest over periods ranging from four to eight years, and expire ten years after the date of grant. A summary of stock option activity under the Nordstrom, Inc. Plans is presented below:

Fiscal Year	6 6		Weighted-Average Weighted-Average W				ted-Average Weighted-Average Weighted-		Weighted-Average Weighted-Average		Weighted-Average Weighted-Average		2005 Weighted-Average Exercise	
	Shares	Price	Shares	Price	Shares	Price								
Outstanding, beginning														
of year	12	<b>\$19</b>	14	\$15	18	\$13								
Granted	2	54	2	40	3	26								
Exercised	(2)	15	(4)	13	(6)	13								
Cancelled	(1)	38		25	(1)	16								
Outstanding, end of year	11	\$25	12	\$19	14	\$15								
Options exercisable at end of year	7	<b>\$16</b>	6	\$13	6	\$12								

In 2007, stock option awards to employees were approved by the Compensation Committee of our Board of Directors and their exercise price was set at the closing price of our common stock on March 1, 2007. In 2006 and 2005, stock option awards to employees were approved by the Compensation Committee of our Board of Directors and their exercise price was set at the closing price of our common stock on the Committee meeting date. The stock option awards provide recipients with the opportunity for financial rewards when our stock price increases. The awards are determined based upon a percentage of the recipients base salary and the fair value of the stock options, which was estimated using an option pricing model. The fair value per stock option was \$20 and \$16 in 2007 and 2006 (using a Binomial Lattice option valuation model), and \$10 in 2005 (using the Black-Scholes option valuation model). In 2007, we awarded stock options to 1,195 employees compared to 1,236 and 1,207 employees in the same periods in 2006 and 2005.

The total intrinsic value of options exercised during 2007, 2006 and 2005 was \$79, \$111 and \$102. The total fair value of stock options vested during fiscal years 2007, 2006 and 2005 was \$24, \$30 and \$27. As of February 2, 2008, the total unrecognized stock-based compensation expense related to nonvested stock options was \$36, which is expected to be recognized over a weighted average period of 29 months. The aggregate intrinsic value of options outstanding as of February 2, 2008 was \$185. The aggregate intrinsic value of options exercisable as of February 2, 2008, was \$160. As of February 2, 2008, 10 options were vested or expected to vest with a total intrinsic value of \$180. The weighted average exercise price of options vested or expected to vest was \$24 as of February 2, 2008. The weighted average exercise life of options vested or expected to vest was six years.

The following table summarizes information about stock options outstanding for the Nordstrom, Inc. Plans as of February 2, 2008:

Options Outstanding
Weighted-Average
Remaining
Range of Exercise
Prices
Options Exercisable
Weighted-Average
Remaining
Remaining
Contract Meighted-Average
Contract Meighted-Average
Phices
Shares
Contract Meighted-Average
Shares
Contract Meighted-Average

Edgar Filing: NORDSTROM INC - Form 10-K

		Exercise Price											Exercise Price
\$8.03 - \$11.00	3	4	\$9	3	4	\$9							
\$11.01 - \$19.60	3	5	17	2	5	16							
\$19.61 - \$40.00	2	6	25	1	5	24							
\$40.01 - \$53.63	3	9	47	1	8	40							
	11	6	\$25	7	5	\$16							

#### PERFORMANCE SHARE UNITS

We grant performance share units to align certain elements of our senior management compensation with our shareholder returns. Performance share units are payable in either cash or stock as elected by the employee; therefore they are classified as a liability award in accordance with SFAS 123(R). Performance share units vest after a three-year performance period only when our total shareholder return (reflecting daily stock price appreciation and compound reinvestment of dividends) is positive and outperforms companies in a defined peer group of direct competitors determined by the Compensation Committee of our Board of Directors. The percentage of units that vest depends on our relative position at the end of the performance period and can range from 0% to 125% of the number of units granted.

The liability is remeasured and the appropriate earnings adjustment is taken at each fiscal quarter-end during the vesting period. The price we used to remeasure the performance share units granted in 2005 was the closing market price of our common stock on the current period-end date. To remeasure the performance share units granted in 2006 and following, we use the 30-day average closing market price of our common stock leading up to the current period-end date. The price used to issue stock or cash for the performance share units upon vesting is the closing market price of our common stock on the vest date.

Nordstrom, Inc. and subsidiaries 55

#### Nordstrom, Inc.

## **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**

Dollar and share amounts in millions except per share and per option amounts

As of February 2, 2008 and February 3, 2007, our liabilities included \$3 and \$13 for performance share units. As of February 2, 2008, our total shareholder return did not reflect a position that created unrecognized stock-based compensation expense for non-vested performance share units. This position may change before the end of the performance period for the non-vested performance share units at February 2, 2008. At February 4, 2007, 255,467 units were unvested. During the year ended February 2, 2008, 50,070 units were granted, 191,794 units vested and no units cancelled, resulting in an ending balance of 113,743 unvested units as of February 2, 2008.

The following table summarizes the information for performance share units that vested during the period:

Fiscal Year	2007	2006	2005
Number of performance share units			
vested	191,794	216,865	336,892
Total fair value of performance share			
units vested	<b>\$12</b>	\$11	\$10
Total amount of performance share units			
settled or to be settled for cash	\$3	\$6	\$2

#### NONEMPLOYEE DIRECTOR STOCK INCENTIVE PLAN

The Nonemployee Director Stock Incentive Plan authorizes the grant of stock awards to our nonemployee directors. These awards may be deferred or issued in the form of restricted or unrestricted stock, nonqualified stock options or stock appreciation rights. In 2007, we deferred a total expense of \$1. As of February 2, 2008, we had 1 remaining share available for issuance.

#### EMPLOYEE STOCK PURCHASE PLAN

We offer an Employee Stock Purchase Plan (ESPP) as a benefit to our employees. Employees may make payroll deductions of up to ten percent of their base and bonus compensation. At the end of each six-month offering period, participants may purchase shares of our common stock at 90% of the fair market value on the last day of each offer period. Beginning in 2006, we recorded compensation expense over the purchase period at the fair value of the ESPP at the end of each reporting period. We issued 1 share under the ESPP during the year ended February 2, 2008. As of both February 2, 2008 and February 3, 2007, we had current liabilities of \$6 for future purchase of shares under the ESPP.

## NOTE 14: ACCUMULATED OTHER COMPREHENSIVE (LOSS) EARNINGS

The following table shows the components of accumulated other comprehensive (loss) earnings, net of tax:

	February 2, 2008	February 3, 2007	January 28, 2006
Foreign currency			
translation		\$15	\$14
Unrecognized loss on			
postretirement benefit			
obligations, prior to			
adoption of SFAS 158		(16)	(19)
Adjustment to initially			
apply SFAS 158		(13)	
Unrecognized loss on	<b>\$(22)</b>		
postretirement benefit			

obligations, subsequent to adoption of SFAS 158
Fair value adjustment to investment in asset backed securities 5 8

Total accumulated other comprehensive

Included in our adjustment to initially apply SFAS 158 in 2006 are our SERP, discussed in Note 11, and our employee retiree medical plan. Adoption of SFAS 158 had a \$(3) impact (net of tax of \$2) to accumulated other comprehensive earnings for the retiree medical plan.

\$(22)

\$3

\$(9)

A fair value adjustment of \$3 was removed from our consolidated balance sheet in conjunction with the securitization transaction completed on May 1, 2007. This adjustment was net of a decrease of \$(2) related to current year fair value adjustments.

Foreign currency translation of \$16 was removed from our consolidated balance sheet and included in the gain on the sale of our Façonnable business during the third quarter of 2007. This decrease was net of an increase of \$1 related to current year translation adjustments.

56

(loss) earnings

#### Nordstrom, Inc.

#### **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**

Dollar and share amounts in millions except per share and per option amounts

#### **NOTE 15: EARNINGS PER SHARE**

Earnings per basic share is computed using the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the year. Earnings per diluted share uses the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the year plus dilutive common stock equivalents, primarily stock options and performance share units.

The computation of earnings per share is as follows:

Fiscal year	2007	2006	2005
Net earnings	\$715	\$678	\$551
Basic shares Dilutive effect of stock options and performance share units	245	261	272
	4	5	6
Diluted shares	249	266	278
Earnings per basic share Earnings per diluted share	\$2.92 \$2.88	\$2.60 \$2.55	\$2.03 \$1.98

Options and other equity instruments totaling 3 shares in 2007 and 2 shares in 2006 were excluded from earnings per diluted share because their impact was anti-dilutive.

Since the beginning of 2005, 12 shares have been issued upon the exercise of stock options; we repurchased a total of 64 shares during the three fiscal years ended February 2, 2008.

## **NOTE 16: SEGMENT REPORTING**

We offer three channels through which our customers can shop: full-line and Rack retail stores and Nordstrom Direct (online and catalog). Our goal is to create an integrated, consistent merchandise offering for our customers regardless of which channel they choose. These three channels meet the aggregation criteria set forth in Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 131, *Disclosures about Segments of an Enterprise and Related Information* (SFAS 131) with the exception of distribution method. Nordstrom Direct sells merchandise via our online store and the catalog as opposed to in a retail store. As such, we aggregate our full-line and Rack stores into the **Retail Stores** segment and report **Direct** as a separate segment. In the second quarter of 2007, we increased our ownership in Jeffrey. As a result of the additional purchase, Jeffrey is now consolidated and included in our Retail segment.

The **Credit** segment earns finance charges and late fee income through operation of the Nordstrom private label and co-branded Nordstrom VISA credit cards. Intersegment revenues consist of interchange fees charged to our other segments.

The **Other** segment includes our product development group, which coordinates the design and production of private label merchandise sold in our retail stores, and our distribution network. This segment also includes our corporate center operations. During the time that we owned them, this segment also included the operations of our Façonnable stores.

The segment information for 2006 and 2005 has been adjusted from our previous Form 10-K disclosures to reflect the 2007 view of certain costs between our Retail Stores, Direct, Credit and Other segments. These changes do not impact the consolidated statements of earnings. These changes include expense related to our loyalty program, intercompany merchant fee income, intercompany borrowings, and sales fulfilled at our Direct fulfillment center initiated at our full-line stores.

Nordstrom, Inc. and subsidiaries 57

#### Nordstrom, Inc.

#### **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**

Dollar and share amounts in millions except per share and per option amounts The following table summarizes net sales by merchandise category:

Fiscal year	2007	2006	2005
Women s apparel	\$3,063	\$2,963	\$2,710
Shoes	1,784	1,731	1,591
Men s apparel	1,571	1,561	1,389
Cosmetics	950	942	847
Women s accessories	941	848	720
Children s apparel	285	286	266
Other	234	230	200
Total	\$8,828	\$8,561	\$7,723

The following table presents our sales by merchandise category as a percentage of net sales:

Fiscal year	2007	2006	2005
Women s apparel	35%	35%	35%
Shoes	20%	20%	21%
Men s apparel	18%	18%	18%
Cosmetics	11%	11%	11%
Women s accessories	11%	10%	9%
Children s apparel	3%	3%	3%
Other	2%	3%	3%

In general, we use the same measurements to compute earnings before income taxes for reportable segments as we do for the consolidated company. However, redemptions of our Nordstrom Notes® are included in net sales for our Retail Stores segment. The sales amount in our Other segment includes an entry to eliminate these transactions from our consolidated net sales. There is no impact to consolidated earnings before income taxes for this adjustment. In addition, our sales return reserve and other corporate adjustments are recorded in the Other segment. Other than described above, the accounting policies of the operating segments are the same as those described in the summary of significant accounting policies in Note 1.

# Nordstrom, Inc.

**Table of Contents** 

# **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**

Dollar and share amounts in millions except per share and per option amounts

The following tables set forth the information for our reportable segments and a reconciliation to the consolidated totals:

Fiscal year 2007	Retail Stores	Direct	Credit	Other	Eliminations	Total
Net sales (a)	\$8,168	\$633		\$27		\$8,828
Net sales increase	3.2%	16.7%	N/A	(74.7%)	N/A	3.1%
Intersegment revenues			\$1		\$(1)	
Interest expense, net (b)			(37)	(37)		(74)
Finance charges and other,						
net	(1)		250	22		271
Depreciation and		_				•
amortization	228	3	1	37		269
Earnings before income taxes	1,256	165	(11)	(237)		1,173
Earnings before income taxes	15.46	26.00	27/4	27/4	27/4	12.25
as a percentage of net sales	15.4%	26.0%	N/A	N/A	N/A	13.3%
Goodwill	38	15				53
Acquired tradename	2.555	122	1 702	1 120		<b>5</b> (00
Assets (c)	2,555	133	1,783	1,129		5,600
Capital expenditures	431	35	3	32		501
	Datati					
Fiscal year 2006	Retail Stores	Direct	Credit	Other	Eliminations	Total
				***		40 = 44
Net sales (a)	\$7,913	\$543	27/1	\$105	27/1	\$8,561
Net sales increase	10.0%	23.5%	N/A	20.3%	N/A	10.8%
Intersegment revenues			\$1	(22)	\$(1)	(42)
Interest expense, net (b)			(11)	(32)		(43)
Finance charges and other,	(1)		214	26		220
net  Depression and amortization	(1) 237	3	214	26 44		239 285
Depreciation and amortization Earnings before income taxes	1,203	134	1 73	(304)		1,106
Earnings before income taxes  Earnings before income taxes	1,203	134	13	(304)		1,100
as a percentage of net sales	15.2%	24.7%	N/A	N/A	N/A	12.9%
Goodwill	8	16	IV/A	28	IV/A	52
Acquired tradename	O	10		84		84
Assets (c)	2,306	105	1,063	1,348		4,822
Capital expenditures	224	3	1,005	36		264
Capital expellultures	224	3	1	30		204
	Retail					
Fiscal year 2005	Stores	Direct	Credit	Other	Eliminations	Total
Net sales (a)	\$7,197	\$439		\$87		\$7,723

110

Net sales increase	8.5%	(1.7%)	N/A	62.1%	N/A	8.3%
Intersegment revenues						
Interest expense, net (b)			\$(17)	(28)		(45)
Finance charges and other,						
net	(2)	1	186	11		196
Depreciation and amortization	223	3	1	49		276
Earnings before income taxes	998	88	53	(254)		885
Earnings before income taxes						
as a percentage of net sales	13.9%	20.2%	N/A	N/A	N/A	11.5%
Goodwill	8	16		28		52
Acquired tradename				84		84
Assets (c)	2,285	85	1,164	1,387		4,921
Capital expenditures	232	3	1	36		272

- (a) Net sales in Other include foreign sales of \$62, \$104 and \$94 for 2007, 2006 and 2005.
- (b) Interest income of \$14, \$13 and \$12 for 2007, 2006 and 2005 is recorded in our Other segment as an offset to interest expense, net.
- (c) Assets in Other include foreign assets of \$0, \$212 and \$205 at the end of 2007, 2006 and 2005. It also includes unallocated assets in corporate headquarters, consisting primarily of cash, land, buildings and equipment, and deferred tax assets.

Nordstrom, Inc. and subsidiaries 59

# Nordstrom, Inc.

# **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**

Dollar and share amounts in millions except per share and per option amounts

# NOTE 17: SELECTED QUARTERLY DATA (UNAUDITED)

Fiscal year 2007	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Total
riscai year 2007	Quarter	Quarter	Quarter	Quarter	Total
Net sales	\$1,954	\$2,390	\$1,970	\$2,514	\$8,828
Same-store sales percentage change	9.5%	5.9%	2.2%	(0.7%)	3.9%
Gross profit	739	876	742	945	3,302
Earnings before income taxes	254	293	272	354	1,173
Net earnings	157	180	166	212	715
Net earnings as a percentage of net					
sales	8.0%	7.6%	8.4%	8.4%	8.1%
Earnings per basic share	\$0.61	\$0.72	\$0.69	\$0.93	\$2.92
Earnings per diluted share	\$0.60	\$0.71	\$0.68	\$0.92	\$2.88
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	
Fiscal year 2006	Quarter	Quarter	Quarter	Quarter	Total
Net sales	\$1,787	\$2,271	\$1,872	\$2,631	\$8,561
Same-store sales percentage change	5.4%	5.7%	10.7%	8.3%	7.5%
Gross profit	664	824	712	1,007	3,207
Earnings before income taxes	213	293	221	379	1,106
Net earnings	131	179	136	232	678
Net earnings as a percentage of net					
sales	7.3%	7.9%	7.2%	8.8%	7.9%
Earnings per basic share	\$0.49	\$0.68	\$0.53	\$0.90	\$2.60
Earnings per diluted share	\$0.48	\$0.67	\$0.52	\$0.89	\$2.55
60					

# Item 9. Changes in and Disagreements With Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure.

# Item 9A. Controls and Procedures.

As of the end of the period covered by this Annual Report on Form 10-K, the Company performed an evaluation under the supervision and with the participation of management, including our President and Chief Financial Officer, of the design and effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in rules 13a-15(e) or 15d-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the Exchange Act )). Based upon that evaluation, our President and our Chief Financial Officer concluded that, as of the end of the period covered by this Annual Report, our disclosure controls and procedures were effective in the timely and accurate recording, processing, summarizing and reporting of material financial and non-financial information within the time periods specified within the Commission s rules and forms. Our President and Chief Financial Officer also concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective to ensure that information required to be disclosed in the reports that we file or submit under the Exchange Act is accumulated and communicated to our management, including our President and Chief Financial Officer, to allow timely discussions regarding required disclosure.

There have been no changes in our internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rules 13a-15(f) or 15d-15(f) of the Exchange Act) during our most recently completed fiscal quarter that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

The following information required under this item is filed as part of this report:

	Page
Management Responsibility for Financial Information	33
Management s Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting	33
Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm	34
Item 9B. Other Information.	
None.	

### PART III

#### Item 10. Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance of the Registrant.

The information required under this item is included in the following sections of our Proxy Statement for our 2008 Annual Meeting of Shareholders, which sections are incorporated by reference herein and will be filed within 120 days after the end of our fiscal year:

**Executive Officers** 

**Election of Directors** 

**Board Committees** 

**Director Nominating Process** 

Web site Access to Corporate Governance Documents

Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance

Corporate Governance

The certifications of our President and Chief Financial Officer required pursuant to Sections 302 and 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 are included as exhibits to this Annual Report on Form 10-K and were included as exhibits to each of our quarterly reports on Form 10-Q. Our President certified to the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) on June 14, 2007 pursuant to Section 303A.12(a) of the NYSE s listing standards, that he was not aware of any violation by the Company of the NYSE s corporate governance listing standards as of that date.

## **Item 11. Executive Compensation.**

The information required under this item is included in the following sections of our Proxy Statement for our 2008 Annual Meeting of Shareholders, which sections are incorporated by reference herein and will be filed within 120 days after the end of our fiscal year:

Compensation of Executive Officers

Compensation Committee Report

**Director Compensation** 

Nordstrom, Inc. and subsidiaries 61

#### Item 12. Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Shareholder Matters.

The information required under this item is included in the following section of our Proxy Statement for our 2008 Annual Meeting of Shareholders, which sections are incorporated by reference herein and will be filed within 120 days after the end of our fiscal year:

Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management

**Equity Compensation Plans** 

#### Item 13. Certain Relationships and Related Transactions.

The information required under this item is included in the following sections of our Proxy Statement for our 2008 Annual Meeting of Shareholders, which sections are incorporated by reference herein and will be filed within 120 days after the end of our fiscal year:

**Election of Directors** 

Certain Relationships and Related Transactions

### Item 14. Principal Accountant Fees and Services.

The information required under this item is included in the following section of our Proxy Statement for our 2008 Annual Meeting of Shareholders, which section is incorporated by reference herein and will be filed within 120 days after the end of our fiscal year:

Ratification of the Appointment of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

#### PART IV

#### Item 15. Exhibits, Financial Statement Schedules.

The following information required under this item is filed as part of this report:

# (a)1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

	Page
Management Responsibility for Financial Information	33
Management s Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting	33
Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm	34
Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm	35
Consolidated Statements of Earnings	36
Consolidated Balance Sheets	37
Consolidated Statements of Shareholders Equity	38
Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows	39
(a)2. FINANCIAL STATEMENT SCHEDULE	
	Page
Schedule II Valuation and Qualifying Accounts	65

#### (a)3. EXHIBITS

Exhibits are incorporated herein by reference or are filed with this report as set forth in the Index to Exhibits on pages 66 through 70 hereof.

All other schedules and exhibits are omitted because they are not applicable, not required, or because the information required has been given as part of this report.

62

#### **SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

NORDSTROM, INC. (Registrant)

/s/ Michael G. Koppel

Philip G. Satre

Michael G. Koppel Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial Officer)

Date: March 21, 2008

/s/

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the Registrant and in the capacities and on the date indicated.

Principal Financial Officer:		Principal E	Principal Executive Officer:		
/s/	Michael G. Koppel	/s/	Blake W. Nordstrom		
Executive Vice President and	Michael G. Koppel d Chief Financial Officer		Blake W. Nordstrom President		
Principal Accounting Officers					
/s/	James A. Howell				
	James A. Howell Vice President Finance				
Directors:					
/s/	Phyllis J. Campbell	/s/	Enrique Hernandez, Jr.		
	Phyllis J. Campbell Director		Enrique Hernandez, Jr. Chairman of the Board of Directors		
		/s/	Robert G. Miller		
	Jeanne P. Jackson Director		Robert G. Miller Director		
/s/	Blake W. Nordstrom	/s/	Erik B. Nordstrom		
	Blake W. Nordstrom Director		Erik B. Nordstrom Director		

Table of Contents 117

/s/

Peter E. Nordstrom

Peter E. Nordstrom
Director
Philip G. Satre
Director

/s/ Alison A. Winter

Alison A. Winter Director

Date: March 21, 2008

Nordstrom, Inc. and subsidiaries 63

#### **Table of Contents**

#### CONSENT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

To the Board of Directors and Shareholders of Nordstrom, Inc.:

We consent to the incorporation by reference in Registration Statement Nos. 033-18321, 333-63403, 333-40064, 333-40066, 333-79791, 333-101110, 333-118756, and 333-146049 on Form S-8 and Nos. 333-59840, 333-69281, and 333-147664 on Form S-3 of our report dated March 20, 2008, relating to the consolidated financial statements and financial statement schedule of Nordstrom, Inc. (which report expressed an unqualified opinion and included an explanatory paragraph regarding the change in accounting for stock-based compensation upon adoption of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123(R), *Share-Based Payment*), and our report dated March 20, 2008, relating to the effectiveness of Nordstrom, Inc. s internal control over financial reporting appearing in this Annual Report on Form 10-K of Nordstrom, Inc. for the year ended February 2, 2008.

/s/ Deloitte & Touche LLP Seattle, Washington March 21, 2008 64

#### **Table of Contents**

# NORDSTROM, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES SCHEDULE II VALUATION AND QUALIFYING ACCOUNTS

(Dollars in millions)

Column A	(	Column B	(	Column C	Column D	Column E
Description		Balance at beginning of period	C	Additions Charged to costs I expenses	Deductions	Balance at end of period
Deducted from related consolidated balance sheet account						
Allowance for doubtful accounts: Year ended: February 2, 2008	\$	17		\$86 (A)	\$30 (B)	\$73
February 3, 2007 January 28, 2006	Ψ	18 19		17 21	18 (B) 22 (B)	17 18
Reserves						
Allowance for sales return, net: Year ended:						
February 2, 2008	\$	55	\$ 1	1,023	\$1,022 (C)	\$56
February 3, 2007		51		894	890 (C)	55
January 28, 2006		50		805	804 (C)	51

- (A) These expenses do not include write-offs of \$21 related to the one-time transition of our VISA portfolio to on-balance sheet, which were included in Finance charges and other, net.
- (B) Deductions consist of write-offs of uncollectible accounts, net of recoveries.
- (C) Deductions consist of actual returns offset by the value of the merchandise returned and the sales commission reversed.

Nordstrom, Inc. and subsidiaries 65

# Nordstrom, Inc. and Subsidiaries Exhibit Index

	Exhibit	Method of Filing
1.1	Underwriting Agreement dated November 28, 2007, by and among the Company and Banc of America Securities LLC, Goldman, Sachs & Co. and Morgan Stanley & Co. Incorporated, as representatives of the several underwriters of the Notes	Incorporated by reference from the Registrant s Form 8-K filed on December 3, 2007, Exhibit 1.1
3.1	Articles of Incorporation as amended and restated on February 21, 2007	Incorporated by reference from the Registrant s Form 8-K filed on February 23, 2007, Exhibit 3.1
3.2	Bylaws, as amended and restated on August 21, 2007	Incorporated by reference from the Registrant s Form 8-K filed on August 23, 2007, Exhibit 3.2
4.1	Indenture between Registrant and Norwest Bank Colorado, N.A., as trustee, dated March 11, 1998	Incorporated by reference from Registration No. 333-47035, Exhibit 4.1
4.2	Senior indenture between Registrant and Norwest Bank Colorado, N.A., as trustee, dated January 13, 1999	Incorporated by reference from Registration No. 333-69281, Exhibit 4.3
4.3	Form of Subordinated Indenture between Registrant and Norwest Bank Colorado, N.A., as trustee, dated January 13, 1999	Incorporated by reference from Registration No. 333-69281, Exhibit 4.4
4.4	Series 2007-1 Note purchase agreement, dated as of April 25, 2007, by and between Nordstrom Credit Card Master Note Trust II and J.P. Morgan Securities Inc. and Greenwich Capital Markets, Inc., as representative of the initial purchasers	Incorporated by reference from the Registrant s Form 8-K filed on May 1, 2007, Exhibit 4.1
4.5	Series 2007-2 Note purchase agreement, dated as of April 25, 2007, by and between Nordstrom Credit Card Master Note Trust II and J.P. Morgan Securities Inc. and Greenwich Capital Markets, Inc., as representative of the initial purchasers	Incorporated by reference from the Registrant s Form 8-K filed on May 1, 2007, Exhibit 4.2
4.6	Amended and Restated Master Indenture, dated as of May 1, 2007, by and between Nordstrom Credit Card Master Note Trust II and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as indenture trustee	Incorporated by reference from the Registrant s Form 8-K filed on May 8, 2007, Exhibit 4.1
4.7	Series 2007-1 Indenture Supplement, dated as of May 1, 2007, by and between Nordstrom Credit Card Master Note Trust II and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as indenture trustee	Incorporated by reference from the Registrant s Form 8-K filed on May 8, 2007, Exhibit 4.2

4.8	Series 2007-2 Indenture Supplement, dated as of May 1, 2007, by and between Nordstrom Credit Card Master Note Trust II and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as indenture trustee	Incorporated by reference from the Registrant s Form 8-K filed on May 8, 2007, Exhibit 4.3
4.9	Note purchase agreement, dated as of May 2, 2007, by and between Nordstrom Credit Card Receivables II LLC, Nordstrom fsb, Nordstrom Credit, Inc., Falcon Asset Securitization Company, LLC and J.P. Morgan Chase Bank, N.A.	Incorporated by reference from the Registrant s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended May 5, 2007, Exhibit 4.6
4.10	Indenture Supplement, dated as of May 2, 2007, by and between Nordstrom Credit Card Master Note Trust II and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association	Incorporated by reference from the Registrant s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended May 5, 2007, Exhibit 4.7
4.11	Form of 6.25% Note due January 2018	Incorporated by reference from the Registrant s Form 8-K filed on December 3, 2007, Exhibit 4.1
4.12	Form of 7.00% Note due January 2038	Incorporated by reference from the Registrant s Form 8-K filed on December 3, 2007, Exhibit 4.2
10.1	Merchant Agreement dated August 30, 1991 between Registrant and Nordstrom National Credit Bank	Incorporated by reference from the Registrant s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended July 31, 1991, Exhibit 10.1
66		

	Exhibit	Method of Filing
10.2	Nordstrom Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan (2003 Restatement)	Incorporated by reference from the Registrant s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended November 1, 2003, Exhibit 10.1
10.3	Investment Agreement dated October 8, 1984 between the Registrant and Nordstrom Credit, Inc.	Incorporated by reference from the Nordstrom Credit, Inc. Form 10, Exhibit 10.1
10.4	1997 Nordstrom Stock Option Plan, amended and restated on February 16, 2000	Incorporated by reference from the Registrant s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended August 2, 2003, Exhibit 10.1
10.5	Amendment 2005-1 to the Nordstrom 401(k) Plan & Profit Sharing dated January 1, 2004	Incorporated by reference from the Registrant s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended January 28, 2006, Exhibit 10.6
10.6	Amendment 2005-2 to the Nordstrom 401(k) Plan & Profit Sharing dated January 1, 2004	Incorporated by reference from the Registrant s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended January 28, 2006, Exhibit 10.7
10.7	Commercial Paper Dealer Agreement dated October 2, 1997 between Registrant and Bancamerica Securities, Inc.	Incorporated by reference from the Registrant s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended October 31, 1997, Exhibit 10.1
10.8	Commercial Paper Agreement dated October 2, 1997 between Registrant and Credit Suisse First Boston Corporation	Incorporated by reference from the Registrant s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended October 31, 1997, Exhibit 10.2
10.9	Issuing and Paying Agency Agreement dated October 2, 1997 between Registrant and First Trust of New York, N.A.	Incorporated by reference from the Registrant s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended October 31, 1997, Exhibit 10.3
10.10	Performance Undertaking dated December 4, 2001 between Registrant and Bank One, N.A.	Incorporated by reference from the Registrant s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended January 31, 2002, Exhibit 10.38
10.11	Promissory Note dated April 18, 2002 between 1700 Seventh, L.P. and New York Life Insurance Company	Incorporated by reference from the Registrant s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended April 30, 2002, Exhibit 10.2
10.12	Promissory Note dated April 18, 2002 between 1700 Seventh, L.P. and Life Investors Insurance Company of America	Incorporated by reference from the Registrant s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended April 30, 2002, Exhibit 10.3
10.13	Guaranty Agreement dated April 18, 2002 between Registrant, New York Life Insurance Company and Life Investors Insurance Company of America	Incorporated by reference from the Registrant s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended April 30, 2002, Exhibit 10.4

10.14	The 2002 Nonemployee Director Stock Incentive Plan	Incorporated by reference from the Registrant s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended July 31, 2002, Exhibit 10.1
10.15	Nordstrom, Inc. Leadership Separation Plan (Restated Effective March 1, 2005)	Incorporated by reference from Registrant s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended January 29, 2005, Exhibit 10.43
10.16	Nordstrom, Inc. Executive Management Group Bonus Plan	Incorporated by reference from Registrant s definitive proxy statement filed with the Commission on April 15, 2004
10.17	2004 Equity Incentive Plan	Incorporated by reference from Registrant s definitive proxy statement filed with the Commission on April 15, 2004

Nordstrom, Inc. and subsidiaries 67

	Exhibit	Method of Filing
10.18	Commitment of Nordstrom, Inc. to Nordstrom fsb dated June 17, 2004	Incorporated by reference from the Registrant s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended July 31, 2004, Exhibit 10.4
10.19	Nordstrom fsb Segregated Earmarked Deposit Agreement and Security Agreement by and between Nordstrom fsb and Nordstrom, Inc. dated July 1, 2004	Incorporated by reference from the Registrant s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended July 31, 2004, Exhibit 10.5
10.20	Revolving Credit Facility Agreement dated November 4, 2005, between Registrant and each of the initial lenders named therein as Lenders, JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. and Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., as Syndication Agents, U.S. Bank, National Association, as Documentation Agent and Bank of America, N.A. as administrative agent	Incorporated by reference from the Registrant s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended October 29, 2005, Exhibit 10.1
10.21	Press release dated August 21, 2007 announcing that its Board of Directors authorized a \$1.5 billion share repurchase program	Incorporated by reference from the Registrant s Form 8-K filed on May 8, 2007, Exhibit 99.6
10.22	Press release dated November 19, 2007 announcing that its Board of Directors authorized a \$1.0 billion share repurchase program	Incorporated by reference from the Registrant s Form 8-K filed on May 8, 2007, Exhibit 99.6
10.23	Director Compensation Summary	Incorporated by reference from the Registrant s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended February 3, 2007, Exhibit 10.54
10.24	Nordstrom, Inc. Employee Stock Purchase Plan (2006 Restatement)	Incorporated by reference from the Registrant s definitive proxy statement on Schedule 14A filed with the Commission on April 13, 2006, Exhibit 10.4
10.25	2007 Stock Option Notice Award Agreement and Form of Notice	Incorporated by reference from the Registrant s Form 8-K filed on February 26, 2007, Exhibit 10.1
10.26	2007 Performance Share Unit Award Agreement and Form of Notice	Incorporated by reference from the Registrant s Form 8-K filed on February 26, 2007, Exhibit 10.2
10.27	Form of Restricted Stock Award under the 2002 Nonemployee Director Stock Incentive Plan	Incorporated by reference from the Registrant s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended August 4, 2007, Exhibit 10.1
10.28	Nordstrom, Inc. 2002 Nonemployee Director Stock Incentive Plan (2007 Amendment)	Incorporated by reference from the Registrant s Form 8-K filed on November 19, 2007, Exhibit 10.39

Nordstrom Executive Deferred Compensation Plan (2007 Restatement)	Incorporated by reference from the Registrant s Form 8-K filed on November 19, 2007, Exhibit 10.40
Nordstrom Directors Deferred Compensation Plan (2007 Restatement)	Incorporated by reference from the Registrant s Form 8-K filed on November 19, 2007, Exhibit 10.41
Nordstrom, Inc. 2004 Equity Incentive Plan (2007 Amendment)	Incorporated by reference from the Registrant s Form 8-K filed on November 19, 2007, Exhibit 10.44
First Amendment to Merchant Agreement and Operating Procedures dated August 30, 1991 between Registrant and Nordstrom National Credit Bank, dated March 1, 2000	Filed herewith electronically
Second Amendment to Merchant Agreement and Operating Procedures dated August 30, 1991 between Registrant and Nordstrom National Credit Bank, dated March 2, 2000	Filed herewith electronically
Third Amendment to Merchant Agreement and Operating Procedures dated August 30, 1991 between Registrant and Nordstrom National Credit Bank, dated October 1, 2001	Filed herewith electronically
	(2007 Restatement)  Nordstrom Directors Deferred Compensation Plan (2007 Restatement)  Nordstrom, Inc. 2004 Equity Incentive Plan (2007 Amendment)  First Amendment to Merchant Agreement and Operating Procedures dated August 30, 1991 between Registrant and Nordstrom National Credit Bank, dated March 1, 2000  Second Amendment to Merchant Agreement and Operating Procedures dated August 30, 1991 between Registrant and Nordstrom National Credit Bank, dated March 2, 2000  Third Amendment to Merchant Agreement and Operating Procedures dated August 30, 1991 between Registrant and Nordstrom National Credit

68

	Exhibit	Method of Filing
10.35	Fourth Amendment to Merchant Agreement and Operating Procedures dated August 30, 1991 between Registrant and Nordstrom National Credit Bank, dated November 1, 2002	Filed herewith electronically
10.36	Fifth Amendment to Merchant Agreement and Operating Procedures dated August 30, 1991 between Registrant and Nordstrom National Credit Bank, dated November 1, 2005	Filed herewith electronically
10.37	Sixth Amendment to Merchant Agreement and Operating Procedures dated August 30, 1991 between Registrant and Nordstrom National Credit Bank, dated May 1, 2007	Filed herewith electronically
10.38	Forms of Notice of 1999 Stock Option Grant and Stock Option Agreements under the Nordstrom, Inc. 1997 Equity Incentive Plan	Filed herewith electronically
10.39	Form of Notice of 2000 Stock Option Grant and Stock Option Agreement under the Nordstrom, Inc. 1997 Equity Incentive Plan	Filed herewith electronically
10.40	Forms of Notice of 2001 Stock Option Grant and Stock Option Agreement under the Nordstrom, Inc. 1997 Equity Incentive Plan	Filed herewith electronically
10.41	Form of Notice of 2002 Stock Option Grant and Stock Option Agreement under the Nordstrom, Inc. 1997 Equity Incentive Plan	Filed herewith electronically
10.42	Form of Notice of 2003 Stock Option Grant and Stock Option Agreement under the Nordstrom, Inc. 1997 Equity Incentive Plan	Filed herewith electronically
10.43	Form of Notice of 2004 Stock Option Grant and Stock Option Agreement under the Nordstrom, Inc. 1997 Equity Incentive Plan	Filed herewith electronically
10.44	Form of Notice of 2005 Stock Option Grant and Stock Option Agreement under the Nordstrom, Inc. 2004 Equity Incentive Plan	Incorporated by reference from the Registrant s Form 8-K filed on March 1, 2005, Exhibit 10.1
10.45	Form of Notice of 2006 Stock Option Grant and Stock Option Agreement under the Nordstrom, Inc. 2004 Equity Incentive Plan	Filed herewith electronically

10.46	Form of 2006 Performance Share Unit Notice and Performance Share Unit Award Agreement	Incorporated by reference from the Registrant s Form 8-K filed on February 28, 2006, Exhibit 10.1
10.47	Nordstrom 401(K) Plan & Profit Sharing, as amended and restated on January 1, 2004	Incorporated by reference from the Registrant s Annual Report on Form 11-K for the year ended December 31, 2003, Exhibit 99.2
10.48	Employment Letter with Mr. Paul Favaro, effective February 1, 2005	Incorporated by reference from the Registrant s Form 8-K filed on January 12, 2005, Exhibit 99.1
10.49	Participation Agreement, dated as of May 1, 2007, by and between Nordstrom fsb, a seller and Nordstrom Credit, Inc., as purchaser	Incorporated by reference from the Registrant s Form 8-K filed on May 8, 2007, Exhibit 99.1
10.50	Servicing Agreement, dated as of May 1, 2007, by and between Nordstrom fsb, and Nordstrom Credit, Inc.	Incorporated by reference from the Registrant s Form 8-K filed on May 8, 2007, Exhibit 99.2
10.51	Amended and Restated Receivables Purchase Agreement, dated as of May 1, 2007, by and between Nordstrom Credit, Inc., as seller and Nordstrom Credit Card Receivables II LLC, as purchaser	Incorporated by reference from the Registrant s Form 8-K filed on May 8, 2007, Exhibit 99.3
10.52	Amended and Restated Transfer and Servicing Agreement, dated as of May 1, 2007, by and between Nordstrom Credit Card Receivables II LLC, as transferor, Nordstrom fsb, as servicer, Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as indenture trustee, and Nordstrom Credit Card Master Note Trust II, as issuer	Incorporated by reference from the Registrant s Form 8-K filed on May 8, 2007, Exhibit 99.4
		Nordstrom, Inc. and subsidiaries 69

	Exhibit	Method of Filing
10.53	Second Amended and Restated Trust Agreement, dated as of May 1, 2007, by and between Nordstrom Credit Card Receivables II LLC, as transferor, and Wilmington Trust Company, as owner trustee	Incorporated by reference from the Registrant s Form 8-K filed on May 8, 2007, Exhibit 99.5
10.54	Amended and Restated Administration Agreement, dated as of May 1, 2007, by and between Nordstrom Credit Card Master Note Trust II, as issuer, and Nordstrom fsb, as administrator	Incorporated by reference from the Registrant s Form 8-K filed on May 8, 2007, Exhibit 99.6
10.55	Form of 2005 Performance Share Unit Notice and Performance Share Unit Award Agreement	Incorporated by reference from the Registrant s Form 8-K filed on March 1, 2005, Exhibit 10.2
10.56	Amendment 2006-1 to the Nordstrom, Inc. Leadership Separation Plan	Filed herewith electronically
21.1	Significant subsidiaries of the Registrant	Filed herewith electronically
23.1	Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm	Filed as page 64 of this report
31.1	Certification of President required by Section 302(a) of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002	Filed herewith electronically
31.2	Certification of Chief Financial Officer required by Section 302(a) of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002	Filed herewith electronically
32.1	Certification of President and Chief Financial Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002	Furnished herewith electronically
70		