

BIG 5 SPORTING GOODS CORP
Form 10-K
February 29, 2012

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20549

FORM 10-K

(Mark One)

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

For the fiscal year ended January 1, 2012

OR

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

For the transition period from _____ to _____

Commission file number: 000-49850

BIG 5 SPORTING GOODS CORPORATION

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation or Organization)

95-4388794
(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

2525 East El Segundo Boulevard

El Segundo, California
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

90245
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: **(310) 536-0611**

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

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Title of Each Class:

Name of Each Exchange on which Registered:

Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share

The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC

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 " No ☒

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

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

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

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

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

Large accelerated filer ☐

Accelerated filer ☐

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

Smaller reporting company ☐

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

The aggregate market value of the voting stock held by non-affiliates of the registrant was \$139,031,310 as of July 3, 2011 (the last business day of the registrant's most recently completed second fiscal quarter) based upon the closing price of the registrant's common stock on the NASDAQ Stock Market LLC reported for July 3, 2011. Shares of common stock held by each executive officer and director and by each person who, as of such date, may be deemed to have beneficially owned more than 5% of the outstanding voting stock have been excluded in that such persons may be deemed to be affiliates of the registrant under certain circumstances. This determination of affiliate status is not necessarily a conclusive determination of affiliate status for any other purpose.

The registrant had 21,750,520 shares of common stock outstanding at February 23, 2012.

Documents Incorporated by Reference

Part III of this Form 10-K incorporates by reference certain information from the registrant's 2012 definitive proxy statement (the "Proxy Statement") to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission no later than 120 days after the end of the registrant's fiscal year.

Forward-Looking Statements

This document includes certain forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Such forward-looking statements relate to, among other things, our financial condition, our results of operations, our growth strategy and the business of our company generally. In some cases, you can identify such statements by terminology such as *may*, *could*, *project*, *estimate*, *potential*, *continue*, *should*, *expects*, *plans*, *anticipates*, *believes*, *intends* or other such terminology. These forward-looking statements involve unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause our actual results in future periods to differ materially from forecasted results. These risks and uncertainties include, among other things, continued or worsening weakness in the consumer spending environment and the U.S. financial and credit markets, the competitive environment in the sporting goods industry in general and in our specific market areas, inflation, product availability and growth opportunities, seasonal fluctuations, weather conditions, changes in cost of goods, operating expense fluctuations, litigation risks, disruption in product flow, changes in interest rates, credit availability, higher costs associated with sources of credit resulting from uncertainty in financial markets and economic conditions in general. Those and other risks and uncertainties are more fully described in Part I, Item 1A, *Risk Factors*, in this report. We caution that the risk factors set forth in this report are not exclusive. In addition, we conduct our business in a highly competitive and rapidly changing environment. Accordingly, new risk factors may arise. It is not possible for management to predict all such risk factors, nor to assess the impact of all such risk factors on our business or the extent to which any individual risk factor, or combination of factors, may cause results to differ materially from those contained in any forward-looking statement. We undertake no obligation to revise or update any forward-looking statement that may be made from time to time by us or on our behalf.

PART I

ITEM 1. BUSINESS

General

Big 5 Sporting Goods Corporation (we , our , us or the Company) is a leading sporting goods retailer in the western United States, operating 40 stores in 12 states under the Big 5 Sporting Goods name as of January 1, 2012. We provide a full-line product offering in a traditional sporting goods store format that averages approximately 11,000 square feet. Our product mix includes athletic shoes, apparel and accessories, as well as a broad selection of outdoor and athletic equipment for team sports, fitness, camping, hunting, fishing, tennis, golf, snowboarding and roller sports.

We believe that over our 57-year history we have developed a reputation with the competitive and recreational sporting goods customer as a convenient neighborhood sporting goods retailer that consistently delivers value on quality merchandise. Our stores carry a wide range of products at competitive prices from well-known brand name manufacturers, including adidas, Coleman, Easton, New Balance, Nike, Reebok, Spalding, Under Armour and Wilson. We also offer brand name merchandise produced exclusively for us, private label merchandise and specials on quality items we purchase through opportunistic buys of vendor over-stock and close-out merchandise. We reinforce our value reputation through weekly print advertising in major and local newspapers, direct mailers and internet and email marketing designed to generate customer traffic, drive net sales and build brand awareness. We also maintain social media sites to enhance distribution capabilities for our promotional offers and to enable communication with our customers.

Robert W. Miller co-founded our company in 1955 with the establishment of five retail locations in California. We sold World War II surplus items until 1963, when we began focusing exclusively on sporting goods and changed our trade name to Big 5 Sporting Goods. In 1971, we were acquired by Thrifty Corporation, which was subsequently purchased by Pacific Enterprises. In 1992, management bought our company in conjunction with Green Equity Investors, L.P., an affiliate of Leonard Green & Partners, L.P. In 1997, Robert W. Miller, Steven G. Miller and Green Equity Investors, L.P. recapitalized our company so that the majority of our common stock would be owned by our management and employees.

In 2002, we completed an initial public offering of our common stock and used the proceeds from that offering, together with credit facility borrowings, to repurchase outstanding high-yield debt and preferred stock, fund management bonuses and repurchase common stock from non-executive employees.

Our accumulated management experience and expertise in sporting goods merchandising, advertising, operations and store development have enabled us to historically generate profitable growth. We believe our historical success can be attributed to a value-based and execution-driven operating philosophy, a controlled growth strategy and a proven business model. Additional information regarding our management experience is available in Item 1, *Business*, under the sub-heading Management Experience , of this Annual Report on Form 10-K. In fiscal 2011, we generated net sales of \$902.1 million, operating income of \$19.2 million, net income of \$11.7 million and diluted earnings per share of \$0.53.

We are a holding company incorporated in Delaware on October 31, 1997. We conduct our business through Big 5 Corp., a wholly owned subsidiary incorporated in Delaware on October 27, 1997. We conduct our gift card operations through Big 5 Services Corp., a wholly owned subsidiary of Big 5 Corp. incorporated in Virginia on December 19, 2003.

Our corporate headquarters are located at 2525 East El Segundo Boulevard, El Segundo, California 90245. Our Internet address is www.big5sportinggoods.com. Our Annual Report on Form 10-K, our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, our Current Reports on Form 8-K and amendments, if any, to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act, are available on our website, free of charge, as soon as reasonably practicable after we electronically file such material with, or furnish it to, the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC).

Expansion and Store Development

Throughout our operating history, we have sought to expand our business with the addition of new stores through a disciplined strategy of controlled growth. Our expansion within the western United States has been systematic and designed to capitalize on our name recognition, economical store format and economies of scale related to distribution and advertising. Over the past five fiscal years, we have opened 73 stores, an average of approximately 15 new stores annually, of which 38% were in California. Uncertainty resulting from the economic recession slowed our store expansion efforts in fiscal 2009, but we resumed our expansion program in fiscal 2010 and 2011. The following table illustrates the results of our expansion program during the periods indicated:

Year	California	Other Markets	Total	Stores Relocated ⁽¹⁾	Stores Closed	Number of Stores at Period End
2007	6	17	23	(3)		363
2008	7	12	19	(1)		381
2009	1	2	3			384
2010	7	8	15	(1)		398
2011	7	6	13	(5)		406

⁽¹⁾ Three stores that were replaced by relocated stores opened in fiscal 2010 were closed in fiscal 2011.

Our store format enables us to have substantial flexibility regarding new store locations. We have successfully operated stores in major metropolitan areas and in areas with as few as 40,000 people. Our 11,000 average square foot store format differentiates us from superstores that typically average over 35,000 square feet, require larger target markets, are more expensive to operate and require higher net sales per store for profitability.

New store openings represent attractive investment opportunities due to the relatively low investment required and the relatively short time necessary before our stores typically become profitable. Our store format typically requires investments of approximately \$0.6 million in fixtures, equipment and leasehold improvements, and approximately \$0.4 million in net working capital with limited pre-opening and real estate expense related to leased locations that are built to our specifications. We seek to maximize new store performance by staffing new store management with experienced personnel from our existing stores.

Our in-house store development personnel analyze new store locations with the assistance of real estate firms that specialize in retail properties. We seek expansion opportunities to further penetrate our established markets, develop recently entered markets and expand into new, contiguous markets with attractive demographic, competitive and economic profiles.

Management Experience

We believe the experience and tenure of our professional staff in the retail industry gives us a competitive advantage. The table below indicates the tenure of our professional staff in some of our key functional areas as of January 1, 2012:

	Number of Employees	Average Number of Years With Us
Senior Management	7	27
Vice Presidents	9	24
Buyers	20	19
Store District / Regional Supervisors	42	22
Store Managers	406	11

Merchandising

We target the competitive and recreational sporting goods customer with a full-line product offering at a wide variety of price points. We offer a product mix that includes athletic shoes, apparel and accessories, as well as a broad selection of outdoor and athletic equipment for team sports, fitness, camping, hunting, fishing, tennis, golf,

snowboarding and roller sports. We believe we offer consistent value to consumers by offering a distinctive merchandise mix that includes a combination of well-known brand name merchandise, merchandise produced exclusively for us under a manufacturer's brand name, private label merchandise and specials on quality items we purchase through opportunistic buys of vendor over-stock and close-out merchandise.

We believe we enjoy significant advantages in making opportunistic buys of vendor over-stock and close-out merchandise because of our strong vendor relationships, purchasing volume and rapid decision-making process. Vendor over-stock and close-out merchandise typically represent approximately 7% of our net sales. Our strong vendor relationships and purchasing volume also enable us to purchase merchandise produced exclusively for us under a manufacturer's brand name which allows us to differentiate our product selection from competition, obtain volume pricing discounts from vendors and offer unique value to our customers. Our weekly advertising highlights our opportunistic buys together with merchandise produced exclusively for us in order to reinforce our reputation as a retailer that offers attractive values to our customers.

The following table illustrates our mix of soft goods, which are non-durable items such as shirts and shoes, and hard goods, which are durable items such as fishing rods and golf clubs, as a percentage of net sales:

	Fiscal Year				
	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007
Soft goods					
Athletic and sport apparel	16.1%	16.1%	16.3%	17.3%	16.8%
Athletic and sport footwear	29.2	29.0	29.1	29.2	29.8
Total soft goods	45.3	45.1	45.4	46.5	46.6
Hard goods	54.7	54.9	54.6	53.5	53.4
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

We purchase our popular branded merchandise from an extensive list of major sporting goods equipment, athletic footwear and apparel manufacturers. Below is a selection of some of the brands we carry:

adidas	Crocs	Head	K-Swiss	Razor	Spalding
Asics	Crosman	Heelys	Lifetime	Reebok	Speedo
Bearpaw	Easton	Hillerich & Bradsby	Mizuno	Remington	Timex
Browning	Everlast	Icon (Proform)	New Balance	Rollerblade	Titleist
Bushnell	Fila	Impex	Nike	Russell Athletic	Under Armour
Coleman	Footjoy	JanSport	Prince	Saucony	Wilson
Converse	Franklin	K2	Rawlings	Shimano	Zebco

We also offer a variety of private label merchandise to complement our branded product offerings, which represents approximately 3% of our net sales. Our sale of private label merchandise enables us to provide our customers with a broader selection of quality merchandise at a wider range of price points and allows us the opportunity to achieve higher margins than on sales of comparable name brand products. Our private label items include shoes, apparel, binoculars, camping equipment, fishing supplies and snowsport equipment. Private label merchandise is sold under trademarks owned by us or licensed by us from third parties. Our owned trademarks include Court Casuals, Golden Bear, Harsh, Pacifica, Rugged Exposure and Triple Nickel, all of which are registered as federal trademarks. The renewal dates for these trademark registrations range from 2014 to 2019. Our licensed trademarks include Avet, Body Glove, Fila, GoFit, Hi-Tec, Maui & Sons, Morrow, Realm and The Realm. We are currently in the process of renewing two of these licenses. The remaining license agreements renew automatically, except for one which is scheduled to expire in 2012. We intend to renew these trademark registrations and license agreements if we are still using the trademarks in commerce and they continue to provide value to us at the time of renewal.

Through our 57 years of experience across different demographic, economic and competitive markets, we have refined our merchandising strategy to offer a selection of products that meets customer demands. Our edited selection of products enables customers to comparison shop without being overwhelmed by a large number of different products in any one category. We further tailor our merchandise selection on a store-by-store basis in order to satisfy each region's specific needs and seasonal buying habits.

We experience seasonal fluctuations in our net sales and operating results and historically have generated higher net sales in the fourth fiscal quarter, which includes the holiday selling season. Accordingly, in the fourth fiscal quarter we experience normally higher purchase volumes and increased expense for staffing and advertising. Seasonality influences our buying patterns which directly impacts our merchandise and accounts payable levels and cash flows. We purchase merchandise for seasonal activities in advance of a season. If we miscalculate the demand for our products generally or for our product mix during the fourth fiscal quarter, our net sales can decline, which can harm our financial performance. A shortfall from expected fourth fiscal quarter net sales can negatively impact our annual operating results, as occurred in fiscal 2011.

Our buyers, who average 19 years of experience with us, work closely with senior management to determine and enhance product selection, promotion and pricing of our merchandise mix. Management utilizes integrated merchandising, business intelligence analytics, distribution, point-of-sale and financial information systems to continuously refine our merchandise mix, pricing strategy, advertising effectiveness and inventory levels to best serve the needs of our customers.

Advertising and Marketing

Through years of targeted advertising, we have solidified our reputation for offering quality products at attractive prices. We have advertised almost exclusively through weekly print advertisements since 1955. We typically utilize four-page color advertisements to highlight promotions across our merchandise categories. We believe our print advertising, which includes an average weekly distribution of over 18 million newspaper inserts or mailers, consistently reaches more households in our established markets than that of our full-line sporting goods competitors. The consistency and reach of our print advertising programs drive sales and create high customer awareness of the name Big 5 Sporting Goods.

We use our own professional in-house advertising staff to generate our advertisements, including design, layout, production and media management. Our in-house advertising department provides management with the flexibility to react quickly to merchandise trends and to maximize the effectiveness of our weekly inserts and mailers. We are able to effectively target different population zones for our advertising expenditures. We place inserts in over 200 newspapers throughout our markets, supplemented in many areas by mailer distributions to create market saturation.

We maintain a digital marketing program that includes email marketing (the E-Team), social media, including Facebook and Twitter, and other website initiatives. Our E-Team program invites our customers to subscribe to our E-Team for weekly advertisements, special deals and product information disseminated on a regular basis. Within our social media program, our customers have the opportunity to engage in conversations with other sports-minded people and receive exclusive information about new products and unique weekly offers. All of these marketing methods are intended to simplify the shopping experience for our customers and further demonstrate our commitment to providing great brands at great value.

We have developed a strong cause marketing platform through our 11-year support of the March of Dimes annual fundraising campaign and other charities. We also build brand awareness by providing sponsorship support of established, high profile running events that benefit our customers' active lifestyles, such as the Honda LA Marathon in Los Angeles, California.

We offer a loyalty program that provides youth-league organizations the ability to earn cash rebates and team discounts through their supporters purchases at our stores.

Vendor Relationships

We have developed strong vendor relationships over the past 57 years. We currently purchase merchandise from approximately 800 vendors. In fiscal 2011, only one vendor represented greater than 5% of total purchases, at 7.7%. We believe current relationships with our vendors are good. We benefit from the long-term working relationships with vendors that our senior management and our buyers have carefully nurtured throughout our history.

Management Information Systems

We have fully integrated management information systems that report aggregated sales information throughout the day, support merchandise management, inventory receiving and distribution functions and provide pertinent information for financial reporting, as well as new business intelligence retail analytics tools. The management information systems also include networks that connect all system users to the main host system, electronic mail and other related enterprise applications. The main host system and our stores' point-of-sale registers are linked by a network that provides managed DSL primary communications with satellite backup for purchasing card (i.e., credit and debit card) authorization and processing, as well as daily polling of sales and merchandise movement at the store level. This wide area network also provides stable communications for the stores to access valuable tools for collaboration, training, workforce management, corporate communications and a new customer service kiosk device. We believe our management information systems are effectively supporting our current operations and provide a foundation for future growth.

Distribution

We operate a distribution center located in Riverside, California, that services all of our stores. The facility has approximately 953,000 square feet of storage and office space. The distribution center warehouse management system is fully integrated with our management information systems and provides comprehensive warehousing and distribution capabilities. We distribute merchandise from our distribution center to our stores at least once per week, using our fleet of leased tractors, as well as contract carriers. Our lease for the distribution center is scheduled to expire on August 31, 2015, and includes three additional five-year renewal options.

In the second quarter of fiscal 2011, we opened a small distribution hub in Oregon to help mitigate fuel costs. This approximately 12,000 square-foot facility enables us to ship full trailers of product from our Riverside distribution center to the Pacific Northwest, where we separate products for regional delivery. This distribution point has greatly reduced the number of transportation miles logged to distribute our product to the Pacific Northwest. Our lease for the Oregon hub is scheduled to expire on January 31, 2019, and includes four additional five-year renewal options.

Industry and Competition

The retail market for sporting goods is highly competitive. In general, competition tends to fall into the following five basic categories:

Sporting Goods Superstores. Stores in this category typically are larger than 35,000 square feet and tend to be free-standing locations. These stores emphasize high volume sales and a large number of stock-keeping units. Examples include Academy Sports & Outdoors, Dick's Sporting Goods, The Sports Authority and Sport Chalet.

Traditional Sporting Goods Stores. This category consists of traditional sporting goods chains, including us. These stores range in size from 5,000 to 20,000 square feet and are frequently located in regional malls and multi-store shopping centers. The traditional chains typically carry a varied assortment of merchandise and attempt to position themselves as convenient neighborhood stores. Sporting goods retailers operating stores within this category include Hibbett Sports and Modell's.

Specialty Sporting Goods Stores. Specialty sporting goods retailers are stores that typically carry a wide assortment of one specific product category, such as athletic shoes, golf, or outdoor equipment. Examples of these retailers include Bass Pro Shops, Cabela's, Foot Locker, Gander Mountain, Golfsmith and REI. This category also includes pro shops that often are single-store operations.

Mass Merchandisers. This category includes discount retailers such as Kmart, Target and Wal-Mart and department stores such as JC Penney, Kohl's and Sears. These stores range in size from 50,000 to 200,000 square feet and are primarily located in regional malls, shopping centers or on free-standing sites. Sporting goods merchandise and apparel represent a small portion of the total merchandise in these stores and the selection is often more limited than in other sporting goods retailers.

Catalog and Internet-based Retailers. This category consists of numerous retailers that sell a broad array of new and used sporting goods products via catalogs or the Internet. The Internet has been a rapidly growing sales channel, particularly with younger consumers, and an increasing source of competition in the retail industry.

In competing with the retailers discussed above, we focus on what we believe are the primary factors of competition in the sporting goods retail industry, including experienced and knowledgeable personnel; customer service; breadth, depth, price and quality of merchandise offered; advertising; purchasing and pricing policies; effective sales techniques; direct involvement of senior officers in monitoring store operations; management information systems and store location and format.

Employees

As of January 1, 2012, we had over 8,800 active full and part-time employees. The International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Local Union No. 986, Miscellaneous Warehousemen Drivers and Helpers represents approximately 460 hourly employees in our distribution center and select stores. The collective bargaining agreements covering both our distribution center and select store employees expire on August 31, 2012. We have not had a strike or work stoppage in over 30 years, although such a disruption could have a significant negative impact on our business operations and financial results. We believe we provide working conditions and wages that are comparable to those offered by other retailers in the sporting goods industry and that employee relations are good.

Employee Training

We have developed a comprehensive training program that is tailored for each store position. All employees are given an orientation and reference materials that stress excellence in customer service and selling skills. All full-time employees, including salespeople, cashiers and management trainees, receive additional training specific to their job responsibilities. Our tiered curriculum includes seminars, individual instruction and performance evaluations to promote consistency in employee development. The manager trainee schedule provides seminars on operational responsibilities such as merchandising strategy, loss prevention and inventory control. Moreover, each manager trainee must complete a progressive series of outlines and evaluations in order to advance to the next successive level. Ongoing store management training includes topics such as advanced merchandising, delegation, personnel management, scheduling, payroll control, harassment prevention and loss prevention. We also provide unique opportunities for our employees to gain knowledge about our products, through periodic hands-on training seminars. In 2011, we implemented a new learning management system providing us with the ability to consistently train our employees online.

Description of Service Marks and Trademarks

We use the Big 5 and Big 5 Sporting Goods names as service marks in connection with our business operations and have registered these names as federal service marks. The renewal dates for these service mark registrations are in 2015 and 2013, respectively. We have also registered the names Court Casuals, Golden Bear, Harsh, Pacifica, Rugged Exposure and Triple Nickel as federal trademarks under which we sell a variety of merchandise. The renewal dates for these trademark registrations range from 2014 to 2019. We intend to renew these service mark and trademark registrations if we are still using the marks in commerce and they continue to provide value to us at the time of renewal.

ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS

An investment in the Company entails risks and uncertainties including the following. You should carefully consider these risk factors when evaluating any investment in the Company. Any of these risks and uncertainties could cause our actual results to differ materially from the results contemplated by the forward-looking statements set forth herein, and could otherwise have a significant adverse impact on our business, prospects, financial condition or results of operations or on the price of our common stock.

Risks Related to Our Business and Industry

Disruptions in the overall economy and the financial markets may adversely impact our business and results of operations, as well as our lenders.

The retail industry can be greatly affected by macroeconomic factors, including changes in national, regional and local economic conditions, as well as consumers' perceptions of such economic factors. In general, sales represent discretionary spending by our customers. Discretionary spending is affected by many factors, including general business conditions, interest rates, inflation, consumer debt levels, the availability of consumer credit, currency exchange rates, taxation, gasoline prices, income, unemployment trends and other matters that influence consumer confidence and spending, among others. Many of these factors are outside of our control. We have experienced and may continue to experience increased inflationary pressure on our product costs. Our customers' purchases of discretionary items, including our products, generally decline during periods when disposable income is lower, when prices increase in response to rising costs, or in periods of actual or perceived unfavorable economic conditions.

As discussed in this and prior reports, the consumer environment has been particularly challenging over the last few years. The economic recession has deteriorated the consumer spending environment and reduced consumer income, liquidity, credit and confidence in the economy, and has resulted in substantial reductions in consumer spending. Continued weakness or further deterioration of the consumer spending environment would be harmful to our financial position and results of operations, could adversely affect our ability to comply with covenants under our credit facility and, as a result, may negatively impact our ability to continue payment of our quarterly dividend, to repurchase our stock and to open additional stores in the manner that we have in the past. Government responses to the disruptions in the financial markets may not restore consumer confidence, stabilize such markets or increase liquidity and the availability of credit to consumers and businesses.

Worldwide capital and credit markets experienced nearly unprecedented volatility and disruption beginning in fiscal 2007 and continuing through fiscal 2011, which has impacted the ability of several financial institutions to meet their obligations. Entering 2012, the financial condition of European countries and financial institutions appears to be unstable, which could impact consumer demand and credit markets in the United States. Based on information available to us, all of the lenders under our revolving credit facility are currently able to fulfill their commitments thereunder. However, circumstances could arise that may impact their ability to fund their obligations in the future. Although we believe the commitments from our lenders under the revolving credit facility, together with our cash and cash equivalents on hand and anticipated operating cash flows, should be sufficient to meet our near-term borrowing requirements, if Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, our principal lender, or any other lender, is for any reason unable to perform its lending or administrative commitments under the facility, then disruptions to our business could result and may require us to replace this facility with a new facility or to raise capital from alternative sources on less favorable terms, including higher rates of interest.

Intense competition in the sporting goods industry could limit our growth and reduce our profitability.

The retail market for sporting goods is highly fragmented and intensely competitive. We compete directly or indirectly with the following categories of companies:

sporting goods superstores, such as Academy Sports & Outdoors, Dick's Sporting Goods, The Sports Authority and Sport Chalet;

traditional sporting goods stores and chains, such as Hibbett Sports and Modell's;

specialty sporting goods shops and pro shops, such as Bass Pro Shops, Cabela's, Foot Locker, Gander Mountain, Golfsmith and REI;

mass merchandisers, discount stores and department stores, such as JC Penney, Kmart, Kohls, Sears, Target and Wal-Mart; and

catalog and Internet-based retailers, such as Amazon.com, and mass merchandisers and other sporting goods stores that also have substantial Internet sales operations.

Some of our competitors have a larger number of stores and greater financial, distribution, marketing and other resources than we have. If our competitors reduce their prices, it may be difficult for us to reach our net sales goals without reducing our prices, which could impact our margins. As a result of this competition, we may also need to spend more on advertising and promotion than we anticipate. We currently do not sell our products over the Internet, which has been a rapidly growing sales channel, particularly with younger consumers, and an increasing source of competition in the retail industry. If we are unable to compete successfully, our operating results will suffer.

If we fail to anticipate changes in consumer preferences, we may experience lower net sales, higher inventory, higher inventory markdowns and lower margins.

Our products must appeal to a broad range of consumers whose preferences cannot be predicted with certainty. These preferences are also subject to change. Our success depends upon our ability to anticipate and respond in a timely manner to trends in sporting goods merchandise and consumers' participation in sports. If we fail to identify and respond to these changes, our net sales may decline. In addition, because we often make commitments to purchase products from our vendors up to six months in advance of the proposed delivery, if we misjudge the market for our merchandise, we may over-stock unpopular products and be forced to take inventory markdowns that could have a negative impact on profitability.

Our quarterly net sales and operating results, reported and expected, can fluctuate substantially, which may adversely affect the market price of our common stock.

Our net and same store sales and results of operations, reported and expected, have fluctuated in the past and will vary from quarter to quarter in the future. These fluctuations may adversely affect our financial condition and the market price of our common stock. A number of factors, many of which are outside our control, have historically caused and will continue to cause variations in our quarterly net and same store sales and operating results, including changes in consumer demand for our products, competition in our markets, inflation, changes in pricing or other actions taken by our competitors, weather conditions in our markets, natural disasters, litigation, political events, government regulation, changes in accounting standards, changes in management's accounting estimates or assumptions and economic conditions, including those specific to our western markets.

Increased costs or declines in the effectiveness of print advertising, or a reduction in publishers of print advertising, could cause our operating results to suffer.

Our business relies heavily on print advertising. We utilize print advertising programs that include newspaper inserts, direct mailers and courier-delivered inserts in order to effectively deliver our message to our targeted markets. Newspaper circulation and readership has been declining, which could limit the number of people who receive or read our advertisements. Additionally, declining newspaper demand and the weak macroeconomic environment are adversely impacting newspaper publishers and could jeopardize their ability to operate, which could restrict our ability to advertise in the manner we have in the past. If we are unable to develop other effective strategies to reach potential customers within our desired markets, awareness of our stores, products and promotions could decline and our net sales could suffer. In addition, an increase in the cost of print advertising, paper or postal or other delivery fees could increase the cost of our advertising and adversely affect our operating results.

Because our stores are concentrated in the western United States, we are subject to regional risks.

Our stores are located in the western United States. Because of this, we are subject to regional risks, such as the economy, including downturns in the housing market, state financial conditions, unemployment and gas prices. Other regional risks include adverse weather conditions, power outages, earthquakes and other natural disasters specific to the states in which we operate. For example, particularly in southern California where we have a high concentration of stores, seasonal factors such as unfavorable snow conditions, inclement weather or other localized conditions such as flooding, fires, earthquakes or electricity blackouts could harm our operations. State and local regulatory compliance also can impact our financial results. Economic downturns or other adverse regional events could have an adverse impact upon our net sales and profitability and our ability to implement our planned expansion program.

A significant amount of our sales is impacted by seasonal weather conditions in our markets.

Because many of the products we sell are used for seasonal outdoor sporting activities, our business is significantly impacted by unseasonable weather conditions in our markets. For example, our winter sports and apparel sales are dependent on cold winter weather and snowfall in our markets, and can be negatively impacted by unseasonably warm weather in our markets. In that regard, unseasonably warm and dry weather during the 2011 holiday period had a substantial negative impact on our sales for that period. Conversely, sales of our spring products and summer products, such as baseball gear and camping equipment, can be adversely impacted by unseasonably cold or wet weather in those periods. Accordingly, our sales results and financial condition will typically suffer when weather patterns don't conform to seasonal norms.

Our business is subject to seasonal fluctuations, and unanticipated changes in our customers' seasonal buying patterns can impact our business.

We experience seasonal fluctuations in our net sales and operating results and historically have generated higher net sales in the fourth fiscal quarter, which includes the holiday selling season. Accordingly, a reduction of consumer confidence during the holiday season will have a significant impact on our business. Further, in the fourth fiscal quarter we experience normally higher purchase volumes and increased expense for staffing and advertising. Seasonality also influences our buying patterns which directly impacts our merchandise and accounts payable levels and cash flows. We purchase merchandise for seasonal activities in advance of a season. If we miscalculate the demand for our products generally or for our product mix during the fourth fiscal quarter, our net sales can decline, which can harm our financial performance. A shortfall from expected fourth fiscal quarter net sales can negatively impact our annual operating results, as occurred in fiscal 2011.

If we lose key management or are unable to attract and retain the talent required for our business, our operating results could suffer.

Our future success depends to a significant degree on the skills, experience and efforts of Steven G. Miller, our Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer, and other key personnel with longstanding tenure who are not obligated to stay with us. The loss of the services of any of these individuals for any reason could harm our business and operations. In addition, as our business grows, we will need to attract and retain additional qualified personnel in a timely manner and develop, train and manage an increasing number of management-level sales associates and other employees. Competition for qualified employees could require us to pay higher wages and benefits to attract a sufficient number of employees, and increases in the minimum wage or other employee benefit costs could increase our operating expense. If we are unable to attract and retain personnel as needed in the future, our net sales growth and operating results may suffer.

All of our stores rely on a single distribution center. Any disruption or other operational difficulties at this distribution center could reduce our net sales or increase our operating costs.

We rely on a single distribution center to service our business. Any natural disaster or other serious disruption to the distribution center due to fire, earthquake or any other cause could damage a significant portion of our inventory and could materially impair both our ability to adequately stock our stores and our net sales and profitability. If the security measures used at our distribution center do not prevent inventory theft, our gross margin may significantly decrease. Our distribution center is staffed in part by employees represented by The International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Local Union No. 986, Miscellaneous Warehousemen Drivers and Helpers. We have not had a strike or work stoppage in over 30 years, although such a disruption could have a significant negative impact on our business operations and financial results. Further, in the event that we are unable to grow our net sales sufficiently to allow us to leverage the costs of this distribution center in the manner we anticipate, our financial results could be negatively impacted.

If we are unable to successfully implement our controlled growth strategy or manage our growing business, our future operating results could suffer.

One of our strategies includes opening profitable stores in new and existing markets. As a result, at the end of fiscal 2011 we operated approximately 18% more stores than we did at the end of fiscal 2006. In response to the economic recession, we slowed our store expansion program substantially in fiscal 2009, and resumed our expansion efforts in fiscal 2010 and 2011 in anticipation of an improved economic environment.

Our ability to successfully implement and capitalize on our growth strategy could be negatively affected by various factors including:

we may again choose to slow our expansion efforts as a result of challenging conditions in the retail industry and the economic recession overall;

we may not be able to find suitable sites available for leasing;

we may not be able to negotiate acceptable lease terms;

we may not be able to hire and retain qualified store personnel; and

we may not have the financial resources necessary to fund our expansion plans.

In addition, our expansion in new and existing markets may present competitive, merchandising, marketing and distribution challenges that differ from our current challenges. These potential new challenges include competition among our stores, added strain on our distribution center, additional information to be processed by our management information systems, diversion of management attention from ongoing operations and challenges associated with managing a substantially larger enterprise. We face additional challenges in entering new markets, including consumers' lack of awareness of us, difficulties in hiring personnel and problems due to our unfamiliarity with local real estate markets and demographics. New markets may also have different competitive conditions, consumer tastes, responsiveness to print advertising and discretionary spending patterns than our existing markets. To the extent that we are not able to meet these new challenges, our net sales could decrease and our operating costs could increase.

Our hardware and software systems are vulnerable to damage, theft or intrusion that could harm our business.

Our success, in particular our ability to successfully manage inventory levels and process customer transactions, largely depends upon the efficient operation of our computer hardware and software systems. We use management information systems to track inventory at the store level and aggregate daily sales information, communicate customer information and process purchasing card transactions, process shipments of goods and report financial information. These systems and our operations are vulnerable to damage or interruption from:

earthquake, fire, flood and other natural disasters;

power loss, computer systems failures, Internet and telecommunications or data network failures, operator negligence, improper operation by or supervision of employees;

physical and electronic loss of data, security breaches, misappropriation, data theft and similar events; and

computer viruses, worms, Trojan horses, intrusions, or other external threats.

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Any failure of our computer hardware or software systems that causes an interruption in our operations or a decrease in inventory tracking could result in reduced net sales and profitability. Additionally, if any data intrusion, security breach, misappropriation or theft were to occur, we could incur significant costs in responding to such event, including responding to any resulting claims, litigation or investigations, which could harm our operating results.

If our suppliers do not provide sufficient quantities of products, our net sales and profitability could suffer.

We purchase merchandise from approximately 800 vendors. Although only one vendor represented more than 5.0% of our total purchases during fiscal 2011, our dependence on principal suppliers involves risk. Our 20 largest vendors collectively accounted for 37.3% of our total purchases during fiscal 2011. If there is a disruption in supply from a principal supplier or distributor, we may be unable to obtain merchandise that we desire to sell and that

consumers desire to purchase. A vendor could discontinue selling products to us at any time for reasons that may or may not be within our control. Our net sales and profitability could decline if we are unable to promptly replace a vendor who is unwilling or unable to satisfy our requirements with a vendor providing equally appealing products. Moreover, many of our suppliers provide us with incentives, such as return privileges, volume purchase allowances and co-operative advertising. A decline or discontinuation of these incentives could reduce our profits.

Because many of the products that we sell are manufactured abroad, we may face delays, increased cost or quality control deficiencies in the importation of these products, which could reduce our net sales and profitability.

Like many other sporting goods retailers, a significant portion of the products that we purchase for resale, including those purchased from domestic suppliers, is manufactured abroad in countries such as China, Taiwan and South Korea. In addition, we believe most, if not all, of our private label merchandise is manufactured abroad. Foreign imports subject us to the risks of changes in import duties or quotas, new restrictions on imports, loss of most favored nation status with the United States for a particular foreign country, work stoppages, delays in shipment, freight cost increases, product cost increases due to foreign currency fluctuations or revaluations and economic uncertainties (including the United States imposing antidumping or countervailing duty orders, safeguards, remedies or compensation and retaliation due to illegal foreign trade practices). If any of these or other factors were to cause a disruption of trade from the countries in which the suppliers of our vendors are located, we may be unable to obtain sufficient quantities of products to satisfy our requirements or our cost of obtaining products may increase. In addition, to the extent that any foreign manufacturers which supply products to us directly or indirectly utilize quality control standards, labor practices or other practices that vary from those legally mandated or commonly accepted in the United States (such as the high lead content found in several products manufactured abroad during the past few years), we could be hurt by any resulting negative publicity or, in some cases, face potential liability. Historically, instability in the political and economic environments of the countries in which our vendors or we obtain our products has not had a material adverse effect on our operations. However, we cannot predict the effect that future changes in economic or political conditions in such foreign countries may have on our operations. In the event of disruptions or delays in supply due to economic or political conditions in foreign countries, such disruptions or delays could adversely affect our results of operations unless and until alternative supply arrangements could be made. In addition, merchandise purchased from alternative sources may be of lesser quality or more expensive than the merchandise we currently purchase abroad.

Disruptions in transportation, including disruptions at shipping ports through which our products are imported, could prevent us from timely distribution and delivery of inventory, which could reduce our net sales and profitability.

A substantial amount of our inventory is manufactured abroad. From time to time, shipping ports experience capacity constraints, labor strikes, work stoppages or other disruptions that may delay the delivery of imported products. In addition, acts of terrorism could significantly disrupt operations at shipping ports or otherwise impact transportation of the imported merchandise we sell.

Future disruptions in transportation services or at a shipping port at which our products are received may result in delays in the transportation of such products to our distribution center and may ultimately delay the stocking of our stores with the affected merchandise. As a result, our net sales and profitability could decline.

Our costs may change as a result of currency exchange rate fluctuations or inflation in the purchase cost of merchandise manufactured abroad.

We source goods from various countries, including China, and thus changes in the value of the U.S. dollar compared to other currencies, or foreign labor and raw material cost inflation, may affect the cost of goods that we purchase. If the cost of goods that we purchase increase, we may not be able to similarly increase the retail prices of goods that we charge consumers without impacting our sales and our operating profits may suffer.

Increases in transportation costs due to rising fuel costs, climate change regulation and other factors may negatively impact our operating results.

We rely upon various means of transportation, including ship and truck, to deliver products from vendors to our distribution center and from our distribution center to our stores. Consequently, our results can vary depending upon the price of fuel. The price of oil has fluctuated drastically over the last few years, and has recently increased

again, which has increased our fuel costs. In addition, efforts to combat climate change through reduction of greenhouse gases may result in higher fuel costs through taxation or other means. Any such future increases in fuel costs would increase our transportation costs for delivery of product to our distribution center and distribution to our stores, as well as our vendors' transportation costs, which could decrease our operating profits.

In addition, labor shortages, or other factors, in the transportation industry could negatively affect transportation costs and our ability to supply our stores in a timely manner. In particular, our business is highly dependent on the trucking industry to deliver products to our distribution center and our stores. Our operating results may be adversely affected if we or our vendors are unable to secure adequate trucking resources at competitive prices to fulfill our delivery schedules to our distribution center or stores.

Terrorism and the uncertainty of war may harm our operating results.

Terrorist attacks or acts of war may cause damage or disruption to us and our employees, facilities, information systems, vendors and customers, which could significantly impact our net sales, profitability and financial condition. Terrorist attacks could also have a significant impact on ports or international shipping on which we are substantially dependent for the supply of much of the merchandise we sell. Our corporate headquarters is located near Los Angeles International Airport and the Port of Los Angeles, which have been identified as potential terrorism targets. The potential for future terrorist attacks, the national and international responses to terrorist attacks and other acts of war or hostility may cause greater uncertainty and cause our business to suffer in ways that we cannot currently predict. Military action taken in response to such attacks could also have a short or long-term negative economic impact upon the financial markets, international shipping and our business in general.

Risks Related to Our Capital Structure

We are leveraged, future cash flows may not be sufficient to meet our obligations and we might have difficulty obtaining more financing or refinancing our existing indebtedness on favorable terms.

As of January 1, 2012, the aggregate amount of our outstanding indebtedness, including capital lease obligations, was \$68.2 million. Our leveraged financial position means:

our ability to obtain financing in the future for working capital, capital expenditures and general corporate purposes might be impeded;

we are more vulnerable to economic downturns and our ability to withstand competitive pressures is limited; and

we are more vulnerable to increases in interest rates, which may affect our interest expense and negatively impact our operating results.

If our business declines, our future cash flow might not be sufficient to meet our obligations and commitments.

If we fail to make any required payment under our revolving credit facility, our debt payments may be accelerated under this agreement. In addition, in the event of bankruptcy, insolvency or a material breach of any covenant contained in our revolving credit facility, our debt may be accelerated. This acceleration could also result in the acceleration of other indebtedness that we may have outstanding at that time.

The level of our indebtedness, and our ability to service our indebtedness, is directly affected by our cash flow from operations. If we are unable to generate sufficient cash flow from operations to meet our obligations, commitments and covenants of our revolving credit facility, we may be required to refinance or restructure our indebtedness, raise additional debt or equity capital, sell material assets or operations, delay or forego expansion opportunities, or cease or curtail our quarterly dividends or share repurchase plans. These alternative strategies might not be effected on satisfactory terms, if at all.

The terms of our revolving credit facility impose operating and financial restrictions on us, which may impair our ability to respond to changing business and economic conditions.

The terms of our revolving credit facility impose operating and financial restrictions on us, including, among other things, covenants that require us to maintain a fixed-charge coverage ratio of not less than 1.0 to 1.0 in certain circumstances, restrictions on our ability to incur liens, incur additional indebtedness, transfer or dispose of assets, change the nature of the business, guarantee obligations, pay dividends or make other distributions or repurchase stock, and make advances, loans or investments. For example, our ability to engage in the foregoing transactions will depend upon, among other things, our level of indebtedness at the time of the proposed transaction and whether we are in default under our revolving credit facility. As a result, our ability to respond to changing business and economic conditions and to secure additional financing, if needed, may be significantly restricted, and we may be prevented from engaging in transactions that might further our growth strategy or otherwise benefit us and our stockholders without obtaining consent from our lenders. In addition, our revolving credit facility is secured by a perfected security interest in our assets. In the event of our insolvency, liquidation, dissolution or reorganization, the lenders under our revolving credit facility would be entitled to payment in full from our assets before distributions, if any, were made to our stockholders.

Risks Related to Regulatory, Legislative and Legal Matters

Current and future government regulation may negatively impact demand for our products and increase our cost of conducting business.

The conduct of our business, and the distribution, sale, advertising, labeling, safety, transportation and use of many of our products are subject to various laws and regulations administered by federal, state and local governmental agencies in the United States. These laws and regulations may change, sometimes dramatically, as a result of political, economic or social events. Changes in laws, regulations or governmental policy may alter the environment in which we do business and the demand for our products and, therefore, may impact our financial results or increase our liabilities. Some of these laws and regulations include:

laws and regulations governing the manner in which we advertise or sell our products;

laws and regulations that prohibit or limit the sale, in certain localities, of certain products we offer, such as firearms and ammunition;

laws and regulations governing the activities for which we sell products, such as hunting and fishing;

laws and regulations governing consumer products, such as the lead and phthalate restrictions included in the federal Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act and similar state laws;

labor and employment laws, such as minimum wage or living wage laws, other wage and hour laws and laws requiring mandatory health insurance for employees; and

U.S. customs laws and regulations pertaining to proper item classification, quotas and payment of duties and tariffs.

Changes in these and other laws and regulations or additional regulation could cause the demand for and sales of our products to decrease. Moreover, complying with increased or changed regulations could cause our operating expense to increase. This could adversely affect our net sales and profitability.

We may be subject to periodic litigation that may adversely affect our business and financial performance.

From time to time, we may be involved in lawsuits and regulatory actions relating to our business, certain of which may be maintained in jurisdictions with reputations for aggressive application of laws and procedures against corporate defendants. Due to the inherent uncertainties of litigation and regulatory proceedings, we cannot accurately predict the ultimate outcome of any such proceedings. An unfavorable outcome could have a material adverse impact on our business, results of operations and financial condition. In addition, regardless of the outcome of any litigation or regulatory proceedings, these proceedings could result in substantial costs and may require that we devote substantial resources to

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defend against these claims, which could impact our results of operations.

In particular, we may be involved in lawsuits related to employment, advertising and other matters, including class action lawsuits brought against us for alleged violations of the Fair Labor Standards Act, state wage

and hour laws, state or federal advertising laws and other laws. An unfavorable outcome or settlement in any such proceeding could, in addition to requiring us to pay any settlement or judgment amount, increase our operating expense as a consequence of any resulting changes we might be required to make in employment, advertising or other business practices.

In addition, we sell products manufactured by third parties, some of which may or may not be defective. Many such products are manufactured overseas in countries which may utilize quality control standards that vary from those legally allowed or commonly accepted in the United States, which may increase our risk that such products may be defective (such as, for example, in the cases of products reported over the past few years to have high lead content). If any products that we sell were to cause physical injury or injury to property, the injured party or parties could bring claims against us as the retailer of the products based upon strict product liability. In addition, our products are subject to the federal Consumer Product Safety Act and the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act, which empower the Consumer Product Safety Commission to protect consumers from hazardous products. The Consumer Product Safety Commission has the authority to exclude from the market and recall certain consumer products that are found to be hazardous. Similar laws exist in some states and cities in the United States. If we fail to comply with government and industry safety standards, we may be subject to claims, lawsuits, product recalls, fines and negative publicity that could harm our results of operations and financial condition.

We also sell firearms and ammunition, products which may be associated with an increased risk of injury and related lawsuits. We may incur losses due to lawsuits relating to our performance of background checks on firearms purchases as mandated by state and federal law or the improper use of firearms sold by us, including lawsuits by individuals, municipalities or other organizations attempting to recover damages or costs from firearms manufacturers and retailers relating to the misuse of firearms. Commencement of these lawsuits against us could reduce our net sales and decrease our profitability.

Our insurance coverage may not be adequate to cover claims that could be asserted against us. If a successful claim was to be brought against us in excess of our insurance coverage, or for which we have no insurance coverage, it could harm our business. Even unsuccessful claims could result in the expenditure of funds and management time and could have a negative impact on our business.

The sale of firearms and ammunition is subject to strict regulation, which could affect our operating results.

Because we sell firearms and ammunition, we are required to comply with federal, state and local laws and regulations pertaining to the purchase, storage, transfer and sale of firearms and ammunition. These laws and regulations require us, among other things, to ensure that all purchasers of firearms are subjected to a pre-sale background check, to record the details of each firearm sale on appropriate government-issued forms, to record each receipt or transfer of a firearm at our distribution center or any store location on acquisition and disposition records, and to maintain these records for a specified period of time. We also are required to timely respond to traces of firearms by law enforcement agencies. Over the past several years, the purchase and sale of firearms and ammunition has been the subject of increased federal, state and local regulation, and this may continue in our current markets and other markets into which we may expand. If we fail to comply with existing or newly enacted laws and regulations relating to the purchase and sale of firearms and ammunition, our licenses to sell firearms at our stores or maintain inventory of firearms at our distribution center may be suspended or revoked. If this occurs, our net sales and profitability could suffer. Further, complying with increased regulation relating to the sale of firearms and ammunition could cause our operating expense to increase and this could adversely affect our results of operations.

Changes in accounting standards and subjective assumptions, estimates and judgments by management related to complex accounting matters could significantly affect our financial results.

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) and related accounting pronouncements, implementation guidelines and interpretations with regard to a wide range of matters that are relevant to our business, such as revenue recognition; lease accounting; the carrying amount of merchandise inventories, property and equipment and goodwill; valuation allowances for receivables, sales returns and deferred income tax assets; estimates related to gift card breakage and the valuation of share-based compensation awards; and obligations related to asset retirements, litigation, self-insurance liabilities and employee benefits are highly complex and may involve many subjective assumptions, estimates and judgments by our management. Changes in these rules or their interpretation or changes in underlying assumptions, estimates or judgments by our management could significantly change our reported or expected financial performance.

Risks Related to Investing in Our Common Stock

The declaration of discretionary dividend payments may not continue.

We currently pay quarterly dividends subject to capital availability and periodic determinations that cash dividends are in the best interest of us and our stockholders. Our dividend policy may be affected by, among other items, business conditions, our views on potential future capital requirements, the terms of our debt instruments, legal risks, changes in federal income tax law and challenges to our business model. Our dividend policy may change from time to time and we may or may not continue to declare discretionary dividend payments. A change in our dividend policy could have a negative effect on our stock price.

Our anti-takeover provisions could prevent or delay a change in control of our company, even if such change of control would be beneficial to our stockholders.

Provisions of our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and amended and restated bylaws as well as provisions of Delaware law could discourage, delay or prevent a merger, acquisition or other change in control of our company, even if such change in control would be beneficial to our stockholders. These provisions include:

a Board of Directors that is classified such that only two or three of the seven directors, depending on classification, are elected each year;

authorization of the issuance of blank check preferred stock that could be issued by our Board of Directors to increase the number of outstanding shares and thwart a takeover attempt;

limitations on the ability of stockholders to call special meetings of stockholders;

prohibition of stockholder action by written consent and requiring all stockholder actions to be taken at a meeting of our stockholders; and

establishment of advance notice requirements for nominations for election to the Board of Directors or for proposing matters that can be acted upon by stockholders at stockholder meetings.

In addition, Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporations Law limits business combination transactions with 15% stockholders that have not been approved by the Board of Directors. These provisions and other similar provisions make it more difficult for a third party to acquire us without negotiation. These provisions may apply even if the transaction may be considered beneficial by some stockholders.

ITEM 1B. UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS

None.

ITEM 2. PROPERTIES**Properties**

Our primary corporate headquarters are located at 2525 East El Segundo Boulevard, El Segundo, California 90245, with a satellite office located nearby at 2401 East El Segundo Boulevard, El Segundo, California 90245. We lease approximately 55,000 square feet of office and adjoining retail space related to our primary corporate headquarters, and we lease approximately 8,000 square feet related to our satellite office. The lease for the primary corporate headquarters is scheduled to expire on February 28, 2016 and provides us with three five-year renewal options, while the lease for the satellite office is scheduled to expire on February 29, 2016 and provides us with two five-year renewal options.

Our distribution facility is located in Riverside, California and has approximately 953,000 square feet of warehouse and office space. Our lease for the distribution center is scheduled to expire on August 31, 2015, and includes three additional five-year renewal options. We have a distribution hub located in Salem, Oregon, utilizing approximately 12,000 square feet of space to separate consolidated truck loads of product for delivery to our regional markets. Our lease for the hub is scheduled to expire on January 31, 2019, and includes four additional five-year renewal options.

We lease all of our retail store sites. Most of our store leases contain multiple fixed-price renewal options and the average lease expiration term from inception of our store leases, taking into account renewal options, is approximately 32 years. As of January 1, 2012, of our total store leases, 40 leases are due to expire in the next five years without renewal options.

Our Stores

Throughout our history, we have focused on operating traditional, full-line sporting goods stores. Our stores generally range from 8,000 to 15,000 square feet and average approximately 11,000 square feet. Our typical store is located in either a free-standing street location or a multi-store shopping center. Our numerous convenient locations and accessible store format encourage frequent customer visits, resulting in approximately 27.4 million sales transactions and an average transaction size of approximately \$33 in fiscal 2011. The following table details our store locations by state as of January 1, 2012:

State	Year Entered	Number of Stores	Percentage of Total Number of Stores
California	1955	207	51.0%
Washington	1984	47	11.5
Arizona	1993	35	8.6
Oregon	1995	25	6.2
Colorado	2001	21	5.2
Utah	1997	16	4.0
Nevada	1978	16	4.0
New Mexico	1995	15	3.7
Idaho	1994	11	2.7
Texas	1995	11	2.7
Oklahoma	2007	1	0.2
Wyoming	2010	1	0.2
Total		406	100.0%

Our store format has resulted in productivity levels that we believe are among the highest of any full-line sporting goods retailer, with same store sales per square foot of approximately \$202 for fiscal 2011. Our high same store sales per square foot combined with our efficient store-level operations and low store maintenance costs have allowed us to historically generate strong store-level returns. Our same store sales reflect the economic recession and continued uncertainty in the financial sector, which resulted in weak same store sales since fiscal 2007.

ITEM 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

On August 13, 2009, the Company was served with a complaint filed in the California Superior Court for the County of San Diego, entitled *Michael Kelly v. Big 5 Sporting Goods Corporation*, et al., Case No. 37-2009-00095594-CU-MC-CTL, alleging violations of the California Business and Professions Code and California Civil Code. The complaint was brought as a purported class action on behalf of persons who purchased certain tennis, racquetball and squash rackets from the Company. The plaintiff alleged, among other things, that the Company employed deceptive pricing, marketing and advertising practices with respect to the sale of such rackets. The plaintiff sought, on behalf of the class members, unspecified amounts of damages and/or restitution; attorneys' fees and costs; and injunctive relief to require the Company to discontinue the allegedly improper conduct. On July 20, 2010, the plaintiff filed with the court a Motion for Class Certification. The plaintiff and the Company engaged in mediation on September 1, 2010 and again on November 22, 2010. During mediation, the parties agreed to settle the lawsuit. On January 27, 2011, the plaintiff filed a motion to preliminarily approve the settlement with the court. On March 21, 2011, the court granted preliminary approval of the settlement. On July 15, 2011, the plaintiff filed with the court a motion for final approval of the settlement. On July 29, 2011, the court granted final approval of the settlement and entered judgment on the settlement. Under the terms of the settlement, the Company agreed that class members who submit valid and timely claim forms will receive a refund of the purchase price of a class racket, up to \$50 per racket, in the form of either a gift card or a check. Additionally, the Company agreed to pay plaintiff's attorneys' fees and costs, an enhancement payment to the class representative and claims administrator's fees. Furthermore, the Company agreed that if the total amount paid by the Company for the class payout, plaintiff's attorneys' fees and costs, class representative enhancement payment and claims administrator's fees is less than \$4.0 million, then the Company would issue merchandise vouchers to a charity for the balance of the deficiency in the manner provided in the settlement agreement. On October 19, 2011, the period for class members to submit claims forms expired. The Company has issued the required merchandise vouchers and otherwise made all payments and distributions required by the settlement agreement. The Company's estimated total cost pursuant to this settlement is reflected in a legal settlement accrual recorded in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2010. The Company admitted no liability or wrongdoing with respect to the claims set forth in the lawsuit. The settlement constitutes a full and complete settlement and release of all claims related to the lawsuit.

The Company was served on the following dates with the following nine complaints, each of which was brought as a purported class action on behalf of persons who made purchases at the Company's stores in California using credit cards and were requested or required to provide personal identification information at the time of the transaction: (1) on February 22, 2011, a complaint filed in the California Superior Court in the County of Los Angeles, entitled *Maria Eugenia Saenz Valiente v. Big 5 Sporting Goods Corporation*, et al., Case No. BC455049; (2) on February 22, 2011, a complaint filed in the California Superior Court in the County of Los Angeles, entitled *Scott Mossler v. Big 5 Sporting Goods Corporation*, et al., Case No. BC455477; (3) on February 28, 2011, a complaint filed in the California Superior Court in the County of Los Angeles, entitled *Yelena Matatova v. Big 5 Sporting Goods Corporation*, et al., Case No. BC455459; (4) on March 8, 2011, a complaint filed in the California Superior Court in the County of Los Angeles, entitled *Neal T. Wiener v. Big 5 Sporting Goods Corporation*, et al., Case No. BC456300; (5) on March 22, 2011, a complaint filed in the California Superior Court in the County of San Francisco, entitled *Donna Motta v. Big 5 Sporting Goods Corporation*, et al., Case No. CGC-11-509228; (6) on March 30, 2011, a complaint filed in the California Superior Court in the County of Alameda, entitled *Steve Holmes v. Big 5 Sporting Goods Corporation*, et al., Case No. RG11563123; (7) on March 30, 2011, a complaint filed in the California Superior Court in the County of San Francisco, entitled *Robin Nelson v. Big 5 Sporting Goods Corporation*, et al., Case No. CGC-11-508829; (8) on April 8, 2011, a complaint filed in the California Superior Court in the County of San Joaquin, entitled *Pamela B. Smith v. Big 5 Sporting Goods Corporation*, et al., Case No. 39-2011-00261014-CU-BT-STK; and (9) on May 31, 2011, a complaint filed in the California Superior Court in the County of Los Angeles, entitled *Deena Gabriel v. Big 5 Sporting Goods Corporation*, et al., Case No. BC462213. On June 16, 2011, the Judicial Council of California issued an Order Assigning Coordination Trial Judge designating the California Superior Court in the County of Los Angeles as having jurisdiction to coordinate and to hear all nine of the cases as Case No. JCCP4667. On October 21, 2011, the plaintiffs collectively filed a Consolidated Amended Complaint, alleging violations of the California Civil Code, negligence, invasion of privacy and unlawful intrusion. The plaintiffs allege, among other things, that customers making purchases with credit cards at the Company's stores in California were improperly requested to provide their zip code at the time of such purchases. The plaintiffs seek, on behalf of the class members, the following: statutory penalties; attorneys' fees; costs; restitution of property; disgorgement of profits; and injunctive relief. The Company intends to defend this litigation vigorously. Because this litigation remains in the preliminary stages and, among other things, discovery is still ongoing, the Company is not able to evaluate the likelihood of an unfavorable outcome in this litigation or to estimate a range of potential loss in the event of an

unfavorable outcome in this litigation at the present time. If this litigation is resolved unfavorably to the Company, such litigation and the costs of defending it could have a material negative impact on the Company's results of operations or financial condition.

On October 31, 2011, the Company was served with a complaint filed in the California Superior Court for the County of Los Angeles, entitled *George Zepeda v. Big 5 Sporting Goods Corporation*, et al., Case No. BC472450, alleging violations of the California Civil Code. The complaint was brought as a purported class action on behalf of mobility impaired/wheelchair-bound persons located in California. The plaintiff alleges, among other things, that the Company violated California state law by failing to make certain store locations accessible to individuals with disabilities. The plaintiff seeks, on behalf of the class members, unspecified amounts of damages; attorneys' fees and costs; and injunctive relief. The Company intends to defend this litigation vigorously. The Company's estimated total cost for this litigation is not expected to have a material negative impact on the Company's results of operations or financial condition.

On December 21, 2011, the Company was served with a complaint filed in the California Superior Court for the County of Los Angeles, entitled *Sean Callahan v. Big 5 Sporting Goods Corp.*, et al., Case No. BC471854, alleging violations of the California Labor Code and the California Business and Professions Code. The complaint was brought as a purported class action on behalf of the Company's store managers and assistant managers in California for the four years prior to the filing of the complaint. The plaintiff alleged, among other things, that the Company failed to reimburse class members for business expenses incurred in connection with their employment as required under California law and failed to pay class members wages (regular and overtime) for time worked outside of recorded work time as required under California law. In February 2012, the Company and the plaintiff reached a confidential agreement providing for the full and complete settlement and release of all of the plaintiff's individual claims and a dismissal of all claims purportedly brought on behalf of the class members in exchange for the Company's payment of a non-material amount to the plaintiff and the plaintiff's counsel. The Company admitted no liability or wrongdoing with respect to the claims set forth in the lawsuit. The court has approved the settlement, and all claims have been dismissed.

The Company is involved in various other claims and legal actions arising in the ordinary course of business. In the opinion of management, the ultimate disposition of these matters is not expected to have a material negative impact on the Company's results of operations or financial condition.

ITEM 4. MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES

None.

PART II**ITEM 5. MARKET FOR REGISTRANT'S COMMON EQUITY, RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS AND ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES**

Our common stock, par value \$0.01 per share, trades on The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC under the symbol BGFV. The following table sets forth the high and low closing sale prices for our common stock as reported by The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC during fiscal 2011 and 2010:

Fiscal Period	2011		2010	
	High	Low	High	Low
First Quarter	\$ 15.85	\$ 11.24	\$ 17.65	\$ 13.59
Second Quarter	\$ 12.30	\$ 7.81	\$ 18.19	\$ 12.91
Third Quarter	\$ 9.00	\$ 5.91	\$ 13.99	\$ 11.51
Fourth Quarter	\$ 11.02	\$ 5.55	\$ 15.70	\$ 12.40

As of February 23, 2012, the closing price for our common stock as reported on The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC was \$9.02 per share.

As of February 23, 2012, there were 21,750,520 shares of common stock outstanding held by approximately 280 holders of record.

Performance Graph

Set forth below is a graph comparing the cumulative total stockholder return for our common stock with the cumulative total return of (i) the NASDAQ Composite Stock Market Index and (ii) the NASDAQ Retail Trade Index. The information in this graph is provided at annual intervals for the fiscal years ended 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011. This graph shows historical stock price performance (including reinvestment of dividends) and is not necessarily indicative of future performance:

Dividend Policy

Dividends are paid at the discretion of the Board of Directors. Quarterly dividend payments of \$0.05 per share, for an annual rate of \$0.20 per share, were paid in fiscal 2009 and 2010. In fiscal 2011, our Board of Directors declared quarterly cash dividends of \$0.075 per share of outstanding common stock, for an annual rate of \$0.30 per share. In the first quarter of fiscal 2012, our Board of Directors declared a quarterly cash dividend of \$0.075 per share of outstanding common stock, which will be paid on March 22, 2012 to stockholders of record as of March 8, 2012.

The agreement governing our revolving credit facility imposes restrictions on our ability to make dividend payments. For example, our ability to pay cash dividends on our common stock will depend upon, among other things, our compliance with certain availability and fixed charge coverage ratio requirements at the time of the proposed dividend or distribution, and whether we are in default under the agreement. Our future dividend policy will also depend on the requirements of any future credit or other financing agreements to which we may be a party and other factors considered relevant by our Board of Directors, including the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware, which provides that dividends are only payable out of surplus or current net profits.

Issuer Repurchases

The following tabular summary reflects the Company's share repurchase activity during the quarter ended January 1, 2012:

ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES ^{(1) (2)}

Period		Total Number of Shares Purchased	Average Price Paid per Share	Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs	Maximum Number (or Approximate Dollar Value) of Shares that May Yet Be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs ⁽³⁾
October 3	October 30				\$ 14,207,000
October 31	November 27	62,003	\$ 8.74	62,003	13,665,000
November 28	January 1	47,547	\$ 9.24	47,547	13,226,000
Total		109,550		109,550	\$ 13,226,000

⁽¹⁾ The Company repurchased 109,550 shares of its common stock for \$1.0 million during the fourth fiscal quarter ended January 1, 2012. The current share repurchase program was announced on November 1, 2007. Under the authorization, the Company may purchase shares from time to time in the open market or in privately negotiated transactions in compliance with the applicable rules and regulations of the SEC. However, the timing and amount of such purchases, if any, would be at the discretion of management and would depend upon market conditions and other considerations. The current program authorizes the repurchase of the Company's common stock for amounts totaling \$20.0 million, and the Company has repurchased 741,892 shares of its common stock for \$6.8 million, pursuant to that authorization through January 1, 2012. As of January 1, 2012, a total of \$13.2 million remained available for share repurchases under the Company's current share repurchase program. Since the inception of its initial share repurchase program in May 2006 through January 1, 2012, the Company has repurchased a total of 1,478,635 shares for \$21.8 million.

⁽²⁾ The Company's dividends and stock repurchases are generally funded by distributions from its subsidiary, Big 5 Corp. The Company's Credit Agreement contains covenants that require it to maintain a fixed charge coverage ratio of not less than 1.0:1.0 in certain circumstances, and limit the ability to, among other things, pay dividends or repurchase stock. The Company may declare or pay cash dividends or repurchase stock only if, among other things, no default or event of default then exists or would arise from such dividend or repurchase of stock and, after giving effect to such dividend or repurchase, certain availability and/or fixed charge coverage ratio requirements are satisfied. See Part II, Item 7, *Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations - Liquidity and Capital Resources*, of this Annual Report on Form 10-K for a further discussion of the Credit Agreement.

⁽³⁾ This amount reflects the dollar value of shares remaining available to repurchase under previously announced plans.

Securities Authorized for Issuance Under Equity Compensation Plans as of January 1, 2012

See Item 12, *Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Stockholder Matters*, of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

ITEM 6. SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA

The Statement of Operations Data and the Balance Sheet Data for all years presented below have been derived from our audited consolidated financial statements. Selected consolidated financial data under the captions Store Data and Other Financial Data have been derived from the unaudited internal records of our operations. The information contained in these tables should be read in conjunction with our consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes and *Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations* appearing elsewhere in this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

	00000000	00000000	00000000	00000000	00000000
			Fiscal Year ⁽¹⁾		
	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007
	(Dollars and shares in thousands, except per share and certain store data)				
Statement of Operations Data:					
Net sales ⁽²⁾	\$902,134	\$896,813	\$895,542	\$864,650	\$898,292
Cost of sales ^{(3) (6)}	610,531	599,101	597,792	579,165	589,150
Gross profit ^{(2) (6)}	291,603	297,712	297,750	285,485	309,142
Selling and administrative expense ^{(2) (4) (5) (7)}	272,436	263,488	260,068	257,883	256,180
Operating income	19,167	34,224	37,682	27,602	52,962
Interest expense	2,561	2,108	2,465	5,198	6,614
Income before income taxes	16,606	32,116	35,217	22,404	46,348
Income taxes	4,933	11,554	13,406	8,500	18,257
Net income ^{(2) (5) (6) (7) (8)}	11,673	\$20,562	\$21,811	\$13,904	\$28,091
Earnings per share:					
Basic	\$0.54	\$0.95	\$1.02	\$0.64	\$1.25
Diluted	\$0.53	\$0.94	\$1.01	\$0.64	\$1.25
Dividends per share	\$0.30	\$0.20	\$0.20	\$0.36	\$0.36
Weighted-average shares of common stock outstanding:					
Basic	21,656	21,552	21,434	21,608	22,465
Diluted	21,869	21,890	21,657	21,619	22,559
Store Data:					
Same store sales (decrease) increase ⁽⁹⁾	(1.2)%	0.8%	(0.6)%	(7.0)%	(1.0)%
Same store sales per square foot (in dollars) ⁽¹⁰⁾	\$202	\$204	\$210	\$213	\$233
End of period stores	406	398	384	381	363
End of period same stores	378	380	362	339	321
Same store sales per store ⁽¹¹⁾	\$2,286	\$2,315	\$2,373	\$2,393	\$2,625
Other Financial Data:					
Depreciation and amortization	\$18,544	\$18,627	\$19,400	\$19,135	\$17,687
Capital expenditures ⁽¹²⁾	\$12,990	\$15,628	\$5,764	\$20,447	\$20,769
Inventory turns ⁽¹³⁾	2.3x	2.4x	2.6x	2.4x	2.3x
Balance Sheet Data:					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$4,900	\$5,620	\$5,765	\$9,058	\$9,741
Working capital ⁽¹⁴⁾	\$156,909	\$130,737	\$120,541	\$129,282	\$133,034

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Total assets	\$394,064	\$392,356	\$366,122	\$388,357	\$403,923
Long-term debt and capital leases, less current portion	\$66,621	\$49,882	\$57,233	\$99,447	\$105,648
Stockholders' equity	\$156,590	\$150,726	\$131,861	\$111,800	\$109,155

(See notes on following page:)

(Notes to table on previous page)

- (1) Our fiscal year is the 52 or 53 week reporting period ending on the Sunday closest to the calendar year end. Fiscal 2011, 2010, 2008 and 2007 each included 52 weeks, and fiscal 2009 included 53 weeks.
- (2) In the fourth quarter of fiscal 2010, we recorded a net pre-tax charge of \$2.3 million reflecting a legal settlement accrual, of which \$0.8 million was classified as a reduction to net sales and \$1.5 million was classified as selling and administrative expense. This charge reduced net income in fiscal 2010 by \$1.5 million, or \$0.07 per diluted share.
- (3) Cost of sales includes the cost of merchandise, net of discounts or allowances earned, freight, inventory reserves, buying, distribution center costs and store occupancy costs. Store occupancy costs include rent, amortization of leasehold improvements, common area maintenance, property taxes and insurance.
- (4) Selling and administrative expense includes store-related expense, other than store occupancy costs, as well as advertising, depreciation and amortization, expense associated with operating our corporate headquarters and impairment charges, if any.
- (5) In fiscal 2011, we recorded a pre-tax non-cash impairment charge of \$2.1 million related to certain underperforming stores. This impairment charge was included in selling and administrative expense, and reduced net income in fiscal 2011 by \$1.5 million, or \$0.07 per diluted share.
- (6) In the second quarter of fiscal 2008, we recorded a nonrecurring pre-tax charge of \$1.5 million to correct an error in our previously recognized straight-line rent expense, substantially all of which related to prior periods and accumulated over a period of 15 years. This charge reduced net income in fiscal 2008 by \$0.9 million, or \$0.04 per diluted share. We have determined this charge to be immaterial to our prior periods consolidated financial statements.
- (7) In the fourth quarter of fiscal 2009, we recorded a net pre-tax charge of \$1.0 million, which reflected a legal settlement accrual offset by proceeds received from the settlement of a lawsuit relating to credit card fees. This charge reduced net income in fiscal 2009 by \$0.6 million, or \$0.03 per diluted share.
- (8) Net income for fiscal 2011, 2010, 2009, 2008 and 2007 was impacted by the economic recession and continued uncertainty in the financial sector.
- (9) Same store sales for a period reflect net sales from stores operated throughout that period as well as the corresponding prior period; e.g., two comparable annual reporting periods for annual comparisons. Our same store sales comparisons reflect the economic recession and continued uncertainty in the financial sector, which resulted in weak same store sales since fiscal 2007.
- (10) Same store sales per square foot is calculated by dividing net sales for same stores, as defined above, by the total square footage for those stores. Fiscal 2011, 2010, 2009, 2008 and 2007 reflect the economic recession and continued uncertainty in the financial sector.
- (11) Same store sales per store is calculated by dividing net sales for same stores, as defined above, by total same store count. Fiscal 2011, 2010, 2009, 2008 and 2007 reflect the economic recession and continued uncertainty in the financial sector.
- (12) Lower capital expenditures in fiscal 2009 reflect substantially fewer store openings when compared with fiscal 2011, 2010, 2008 and 2007 due to the economic recession.
- (13) Inventory turns equal fiscal year cost of sales divided by the fiscal year four-quarter weighted-average cost of merchandise inventory.

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- ⁽¹⁴⁾ Working capital is defined as current assets less current liabilities. In the second quarter of fiscal 2008, we reclassified approximately \$5.1 million of workers compensation reserves from accrued expenses to other long-term liabilities on the consolidated balance sheet as of December 30, 2007. Additionally, we reclassified approximately \$2.0 million of the related deferred income tax assets from current deferred income tax assets to long-term deferred income tax assets on the consolidated balance sheet as of December 30, 2007. This reclassification increased working capital for fiscal 2008 and 2007 by \$3.1 million, but had no effect on our previously reported consolidated statements of operations or consolidated statements of cash flows, and is not considered material to any previously reported consolidated financial statements. Working capital in fiscal 2011, 2010 and 2007 was impacted by higher inventory levels at the end of the year associated with lower than anticipated sales for the fourth quarter of those fiscal years.

ITEM 7. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Throughout this section, the Big 5 Sporting Goods Corporation (we , our , us) fiscal years ended January 1, 2012, January 2, 2011 and January 3, 2010 are referred to as fiscal 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively. The following discussion and analysis of our financial condition and results of operations for fiscal 2011, 2010 and 2009 includes information with respect to our plans and strategies for our business and should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and related notes, the risk factors and the cautionary statement regarding forward-looking information included elsewhere in this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Our fiscal year ends on the Sunday nearest December 31. Fiscal 2011 and 2010 each included 52 weeks, while fiscal 2009 included 53 weeks.

Overview

We are a leading sporting goods retailer in the western United States, operating 406 stores in 12 states under the name Big 5 Sporting Goods at January 1, 2012. We provide a full-line product offering in a traditional sporting goods store format that averages approximately 11,000 square feet. Our product mix includes athletic shoes, apparel and accessories, as well as a broad selection of outdoor and athletic equipment for team sports, fitness, camping, hunting, fishing, tennis, golf, snowboarding and roller sports.

We believe that over our 57-year history we have developed a reputation with the competitive and recreational sporting goods customer as a convenient neighborhood sporting goods retailer that consistently delivers value on quality merchandise. Our stores carry a wide range of products at competitive prices from well-known brand name manufacturers, including adidas, Coleman, Easton, New Balance, Nike, Reebok, Spalding, Under Armour and Wilson. We also offer brand name merchandise produced exclusively for us, private label merchandise and specials on quality items we purchase through opportunistic buys of vendor over-stock and close-out merchandise. We reinforce our value reputation through weekly print advertising in major and local newspapers, direct mailers and internet marketing designed to generate customer traffic, drive net sales and build brand awareness. We also maintain social media sites to enhance distribution capabilities for our promotional offers and to enable communication with our customers.

Throughout our history, we have emphasized controlled growth. We resumed our growth in fiscal 2010 and 2011, after our growth in fiscal 2009 was slowed substantially in response to the economic recession. We opened 11 new stores and two relocations in fiscal 2011, and closed three stores in fiscal 2011 as part of relocations that began in fiscal 2010. For fiscal 2012, we expect to open approximately ten new stores and relocate approximately seven stores. Of the seven stores expected to be relocated in fiscal 2012, we anticipate closing approximately four stores this year and the remaining three stores in fiscal 2013. The following table summarizes our store count for the periods presented:

	Fiscal Year		
	2011	2010	2009
Big 5 Sporting Goods stores:			
Beginning of period	398	384	381
New stores ⁽¹⁾	13	15	3
Stores relocated ⁽²⁾	(5)	(1)	
Stores closed			
End of period	406	398	384
New stores opened per year, net	8	14	3

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- (1) Stores that are relocated are classified as new stores. Sales from the prior location are treated as sales from a closed store and thus are excluded from same store sales calculations.
- (2) Three stores closed in fiscal 2011 as part of relocations that began in fiscal 2010.

Executive Summary

Our operating results for fiscal 2011, 2010 and 2009 reflected unfavorable macroeconomic conditions in our markets resulting primarily from the lingering effects of the economic recession and uncertainty in the financial sector. These conditions have led to an erosion of consumer confidence and, as long as this economic weakness continues, it is likely to continue to impact our operating results.

Net sales for fiscal 2011 increased 0.6% to \$902.1 million compared to fiscal 2010. The increase in net sales was primarily attributable to revenue from new stores, partially offset by decreased same store sales of 1.2%.

Net income for fiscal 2011 decreased 43.2% to \$11.7 million, or \$0.53 per diluted share, compared to \$20.6 million, or \$0.94 per diluted share, for fiscal 2010. The decrease was driven primarily by lower merchandise margins and higher selling and administrative expense, which included a pre-tax impairment charge of \$2.1 million, partially offset by lower income tax expense.

Gross profit for fiscal 2011 represented 32.3% of net sales, compared with 33.2% in the prior year. Merchandise margins were 74 basis points lower than last year, while store occupancy expense was higher, reflecting new store openings.

Selling and administrative expense for fiscal 2011 increased 3.4% to \$272.4 million, or 30.2% of net sales, compared to \$263.5 million, or 29.4% of net sales, for fiscal 2010. The increase was primarily attributable to higher store-related expense, excluding occupancy, as a result of new store openings, combined with higher advertising expense. Selling and administrative expense also reflected a pre-tax impairment charge of \$2.1 million during fiscal 2011.

Operating income for fiscal 2011 declined 44.0% to \$19.2 million, or 2.1% of net sales, compared to \$34.2 million, or 3.8% of net sales, for fiscal 2010. The lower operating income primarily reflects lower merchandise margins and higher selling and administrative expense.

Results of Operations

The following table sets forth selected items from our consolidated statements of operations by dollar and as a percentage of our net sales for the periods indicated:

	2011 ⁽¹⁾		Fiscal Year 2010 ⁽¹⁾		2009 ⁽¹⁾	
			(Dollars in thousands)			
Statement of Operations Data:						
Net sales ⁽²⁾	\$ 902,134	100.0%	\$ 896,813	100.0%	\$ 895,542	100.0%
Cost of sales ⁽³⁾	610,531	67.7	599,101	66.8	597,792	66.8
Gross profit ⁽²⁾	291,603	32.3	297,712	33.2	297,750	33.2
Selling and administrative expense ^{(2) (4) (5) (6)}	272,436	30.2	263,488	29.4	260,068	29.0
Operating income	19,167	2.1	34,224	3.8	37,682	4.2
Interest expense	2,561	0.3	2,108	0.2	2,465	0.3
Income before income taxes	16,606	1.8	32,116	3.6	35,217	3.9
Income taxes	4,933	0.5	11,554	1.3	13,406	1.5
Net income ^{(2) (5) (6)}	\$ 11,673	1.3%	\$ 20,562	2.3%	\$ 21,811	2.4%
Other Financial Data:						
Net sales change		0.6%		0.1 %		3.6%
Same store sales change ⁽⁷⁾		(1.2)%		0.8 %		(0.6)%
Net income change ⁽⁸⁾		(43.2)%		(5.7)%		56.9 %

⁽¹⁾ Fiscal 2011 and 2010 each included 52 weeks. Fiscal 2009 included 53 weeks.

⁽²⁾

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In the fourth quarter of fiscal 2010, we recorded a net pre-tax charge of \$2.3 million reflecting a legal settlement accrual, of which \$0.8 million was classified as a reduction to net sales and \$1.5 million was classified as selling and administrative expense. This charge reduced net income in fiscal 2010 by \$1.5 million, or \$0.07 per diluted share.

- (3) Cost of sales includes the cost of merchandise, net of discounts or allowances earned, freight, inventory reserves, buying, distribution center costs and store occupancy costs. Store occupancy costs include rent, amortization of leasehold improvements, common area maintenance, property taxes and insurance.
- (4) Selling and administrative expense includes store-related expense, other than store occupancy costs, as well as advertising, depreciation and amortization, expense associated with operating our corporate headquarters and impairment charges, if any.

- (5) In fiscal 2011, we recorded a pre-tax non-cash impairment charge of \$2.1 million related to certain underperforming stores. This impairment charge was included in selling and administrative expense, and reduced net income in fiscal 2011 by \$1.5 million, or \$0.07 per diluted share.
- (6) In the fourth quarter of fiscal 2009, we recorded a net pre-tax charge of \$1.0 million, which reflected a legal settlement accrual offset by proceeds received from the settlement of a lawsuit relating to credit card fees. This charge reduced net income in fiscal 2009 by \$0.6 million, or \$0.03 per diluted share.
- (7) Same store sales for a period reflect net sales from stores operated throughout that period as well as the corresponding prior period; e.g., two comparable annual reporting periods for annual comparisons. Same store sales comparisons for fiscal 2010 versus fiscal 2009 were made on a comparable 52-week basis, while same store sales comparisons for fiscal 2009 versus fiscal 2008 were made on a comparable 53-week basis.
- (8) Net income for fiscal 2011, 2010 and 2009 reflected the impact of the economic recession, which weakened consumer demand and negatively impacted our net sales.

Fiscal 2011 Compared to Fiscal 2010

Net Sales. Net sales increased by \$5.3 million, or 0.6%, to \$902.1 million for fiscal 2011 from \$896.8 million for fiscal 2010. The change in net sales was primarily attributable to the following:

Added sales from new stores reflected the opening of 28 new stores since January 3, 2010. The revenue from new store sales was partially offset by a reduction in same store and closed store sales.

Same store sales decreased 1.2% for fiscal 2011 versus fiscal 2010. Same store sales for a period reflect net sales from stores that operated throughout the period as well as the corresponding prior period; e.g., comparable yearly reporting periods for yearly comparisons.

Net sales for fiscal 2011 continued to be impacted by the economic recession, and we experienced decreased customer traffic into our retail stores when compared with fiscal 2010.

Net sales for fiscal 2010 reflected a net pre-tax charge of \$0.8 million for a legal settlement accrual that was classified as a reduction of net sales.

Store count at the end of fiscal 2011 was 406 versus 398 at the end of fiscal 2010. We opened 11 new stores and two relocations in fiscal 2011, and closed three stores in fiscal 2011 as part of relocations that began in fiscal 2010. For fiscal 2012, we expect to open approximately ten new stores and relocate approximately seven stores. Of the seven stores expected to be relocated in fiscal 2012, we anticipate closing approximately four stores this year and the remaining three stores in fiscal 2013.

Gross Profit. Gross profit decreased by \$6.1 million to \$291.6 million in fiscal 2011 from \$297.7 million in fiscal 2010. Gross profit as a percentage of net sales in fiscal 2011 was 32.3% compared with 33.2% during the prior year. The change in gross profit was primarily attributable to the following:

Merchandise margins, which exclude buying, occupancy and distribution costs, decreased for fiscal 2011 by 74 basis points versus fiscal 2010, primarily reflecting the impact of product cost inflation, increased promotional activities to stimulate sales and a sales mix shift away from higher margin winter product categories during the fourth quarter as a result of unseasonably warm weather.

Store occupancy costs for fiscal 2011 increased by \$1.4 million, or 11 basis points, year over year, due primarily to the increase in store count.

Net sales increased by \$5.3 million in fiscal 2011 compared to the prior year.

Selling and Administrative Expense. Selling and administrative expense increased by \$8.9 million, or 3.4%, to \$272.4 million, or 30.2% of net sales, in fiscal 2011 from \$263.5 million, or 29.4% of net sales, in fiscal 2010. The change in selling and administrative expense was primarily attributable to the following:

Store-related expense, excluding occupancy, increased by \$6.8 million, or 65 basis points, due primarily to higher labor and operating costs to support the increase in store count and increased employee benefit costs.

Advertising expense for fiscal 2011 increased by \$2.7 million, or 27 basis points, due primarily to an increase in newspaper advertising, internet marketing and other advertising to support sales.

Administrative expense for fiscal 2011 included a pre-tax non-cash impairment charge of \$2.1 million related to certain underperforming stores. Administrative expense in fiscal 2010 reflected a net pre-tax charge for a legal settlement accrual of \$1.5 million.

Interest Expense. Interest expense increased by \$0.5 million, or 21.4%, to \$2.6 million in fiscal 2011 from \$2.1 million in fiscal 2010. The increase in interest expense primarily reflects an increase in average debt levels of approximately \$7.5 million to \$67.5 million in fiscal 2011 from \$60.0 million in fiscal 2010, combined with an increase in average interest rates of approximately 40 basis points to 2.5% during fiscal 2011 from 2.1% in fiscal 2010. The increase in average interest rates was due mainly to higher applicable margins under our current credit agreement as compared to our prior credit agreement. Interest expense in fiscal 2010 included a \$0.3 million charge for a one-time early termination fee and the write-off of the remaining deferred debt issuance costs associated with the termination of our prior credit agreement.

Income Taxes. The provision for income taxes was \$4.9 million for fiscal 2011 compared with \$11.6 million for fiscal 2010. This decrease was primarily due to lower pre-tax income in fiscal 2011 compared to the prior year. Our effective tax rate was 29.7% for fiscal 2011 compared with 36.0% for fiscal 2010. Our lower effective tax rate for fiscal 2011 compared to the prior year primarily reflects the impact of higher income tax credits for fiscal 2011 relative to lower pre-tax income.

Fiscal 2010 Compared to Fiscal 2009

Net Sales. Net sales increased by \$1.3 million, or 0.1%, to \$896.8 million for fiscal 2010 from \$895.5 million for fiscal 2009. The change in net sales was primarily attributable to the following:

Added sales from new stores reflected the opening of 18 new stores since December 28, 2008. The revenue from new store sales was partially offset by a reduction in closed store sales.

Same store sales increased 0.8% for the 52 weeks ended January 2, 2011, versus the comparable 52-week period in the prior year. Same store sales for a period reflect net sales from stores that operated throughout the period as well as the corresponding prior period; e.g., comparable yearly reporting periods for yearly comparisons.

The extra week in fiscal 2009 negatively impacted the net sales comparison to fiscal 2010 by \$15.8 million.

Net sales for fiscal 2010 reflected a net pre-tax charge of \$0.8 million for a legal settlement accrual that was classified as a reduction of net sales.

While net sales for fiscal 2010 continued to be impacted by the economic recession, we experienced increased customer traffic into our retail stores when compared with fiscal 2009.

Store count at the end of fiscal 2010 was 398 versus 384 at the end of fiscal 2009. We opened 11 new stores and had four relocations in fiscal 2010. Of the four relocations, we closed one store in fiscal 2010 and closed the remaining three stores relocated in fiscal 2010 in fiscal 2011. Our fiscal 2009 store growth was slowed substantially in response to the economic recession, which reflected the opening of three new stores.

Gross Profit. Gross profit decreased by \$0.1 million to \$297.7 million in fiscal 2010 from \$297.8 million in fiscal 2009. Gross profit as a percentage of net sales in fiscal 2010 remained unchanged compared with fiscal 2009 at 33.2%. The slight change in gross profit was primarily attributable to the following:

Merchandise margins, which exclude buying, occupancy and distribution costs, decreased for fiscal 2010 by 13 basis points versus fiscal 2009, primarily due to shifts in product sales mix.

Store occupancy costs for fiscal 2010 increased by \$1.4 million, or 15 basis points, year over year, due primarily to the increase in store count.

Distribution costs, including costs capitalized into inventory, decreased by \$2.7 million, or 30 basis points, in fiscal 2010 compared to fiscal 2009.

Net sales increased by \$1.3 million in fiscal 2010 compared to fiscal 2009.

Selling and Administrative Expense. Selling and administrative expense increased by \$3.4 million, or 1.3%, to \$263.5 million, or 29.4% of net sales, in fiscal 2010 from \$260.1 million, or 29.0% of net sales, in fiscal 2009. The change in selling and administrative expense was primarily attributable to the following:

Store-related expense, excluding occupancy, increased by \$4.2 million, or 44 basis points, due primarily to higher labor and operating costs to support the increase in store count, offset by lower depreciation.

Advertising expense for fiscal 2010 decreased by \$0.9 million, or 11 basis points, due primarily to a reduction in the frequency and distribution of advertising circulars.

Administrative expense for fiscal 2010 increased by \$0.1 million, and remained unchanged as a percentage of net sales in comparison with fiscal 2009. Administrative expense in fiscal 2010 and fiscal 2009 reflected net pre-tax charges for legal settlement accruals of \$1.5 million and \$1.0 million, respectively.

Interest Expense. Interest expense decreased by \$0.4 million, or 14.5%, to \$2.1 million in fiscal 2010 from \$2.5 million in fiscal 2009. The decrease in interest expense primarily reflected a reduction in average debt levels of approximately \$23.6 million to \$60.0 million in fiscal 2010 from \$83.6 million in fiscal 2009, combined with a reduction in average interest rates of approximately 10 basis points to 2.1% during fiscal 2010 from 2.2% in fiscal 2009. Interest expense in fiscal 2010 reflected a one-time early termination fee and the write off of the remaining deferred debt issuance costs of \$0.3 million associated with the termination of our prior credit agreement.

Income Taxes. The provision for income taxes was \$11.6 million for fiscal 2010 compared with \$13.4 million for fiscal 2009. This decrease was primarily due to lower pre-tax income in fiscal 2010 compared to fiscal 2009. Our effective tax rate was 36.0% for fiscal 2010 compared with 38.1% for fiscal 2009. Our lower effective tax rate for fiscal 2010 compared to fiscal 2009 primarily reflected an increased benefit from income tax credits taken in fiscal 2010.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

Our principal liquidity requirements are for working capital, capital expenditures and cash dividends. We fund our liquidity requirements primarily through cash and cash equivalents on hand, cash flow from operations and borrowings from our revolving credit facility. We believe our cash and cash equivalents on hand, future funds from operations and borrowings from our revolving credit facility will be sufficient to fund our cash requirements for at least the next 12 months. There is no assurance, however, that we will be able to generate sufficient cash flows from operations or maintain our ability to borrow under our revolving credit facility.

We ended fiscal 2011 with \$4.9 million of cash and cash equivalents compared with \$5.6 million in fiscal 2010. After reducing our long-term debt by \$6.7 million, or 12.1%, during fiscal 2010, we increased our long-term debt by \$15.2 million, or 31.4%, during fiscal 2011 to \$63.5 million from \$48.3 million at the end of fiscal 2010. The following table summarizes our cash flows from operating, investing and financing activities for each of the past three fiscal years:

	2011	Fiscal Year 2010 (Dollars in thousands)	2009
Total cash provided by (used in):			
Operating activities	\$ 2,218	\$ 29,867	\$ 54,087
Investing activities	(11,988)	(15,624)	(5,764)
Financing activities	9,050	(14,388)	(51,616)
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	\$ (720)	\$ (145)	\$ (3,293)

The seasonality of our business historically provides greater cash flow from operations during the holiday and winter selling season, with fourth fiscal quarter net sales traditionally generating the strongest profits of our fiscal year. Typically, we use operating cash flow and borrowings under our revolving credit facility to fund inventory increases in anticipation of the holidays and our inventory levels are at their highest in the months leading up to Christmas. As holiday sales significantly reduce inventory levels, this reduction, combined with net income, historically provides us with strong cash flow from operations at the end of our fiscal year.

For fiscal 2011, we strategically increased merchandise inventory levels to add certain new products to stimulate sales and also purchased inventory earlier in the year to mitigate the impact of product cost inflation and potential delivery delays. Reduced inventory purchases in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2011 resulted in lower accounts payable as a percentage of inventory. Also, weaker than anticipated sales during fiscal 2011, particularly in the fourth quarter, resulted in higher inventory levels and reduced operating cash flow for the year, contributing to higher debt balances year over year.

For fiscal 2010, we purchased larger quantities of inventory primarily in anticipation of improving business conditions and as a result of increased availability of certain products. The higher inventory levels combined

with lower than anticipated sales in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2010 resulted in reduced operating cash flow for the year as compared to the prior year. For fiscal 2009, our improved earnings contributed to higher cash flow from operations compared to fiscal 2008. For fiscal 2009 we purchased lower quantities of inventory to reduce our overall inventory levels in anticipation of weaker consumer demand and also reduced our capital spending for new store openings in response to the economic recession.

Operating Activities. Net cash provided by operating activities for fiscal 2011, 2010 and 2009 was \$2.2 million, \$29.9 million and \$54.1 million, respectively. The decrease in cash provided by operating activities for fiscal 2011 compared to fiscal 2010 primarily reflected higher funding of merchandise inventory along with the timing of inventory purchases and payments, as well as lower net income and accrued expenses and other liabilities, primarily for legal settlements. The decrease in cash provided by operating activities for fiscal 2010 compared to fiscal 2009 primarily reflected higher inventory levels at the end of fiscal 2010 as a result of lower than anticipated fourth quarter holiday sales. The decrease in cash provided by operating activities in fiscal 2010 compared to fiscal 2009 also reflected higher accounts receivable balances related primarily to landlord tenant allowances for new stores and income tax refunds, along with reduced net income, partially offset by the positive cash flow impact of higher accounts payable related to inventory purchases.

Investing Activities. Net cash used in investing activities for fiscal 2011, 2010 and 2009 was \$12.0 million, \$15.6 million and \$5.8 million, respectively. In fiscal 2011, we received proceeds of \$0.5 million from the sale of owned real property and \$0.5 million as part of a local utility rebate program related to the implementation of a green energy system at our distribution center. Our capital spending is primarily for new store openings, store-related remodeling, distribution center and corporate headquarters costs and computer hardware and software purchases. Capital expenditures by category for each of the last three fiscal years are as follows:

	0000000	0000000	0000000
	2011	Fiscal Year 2010	2009
	(Dollars in thousands)		
New stores	\$ 7,108	\$ 9,773	\$ 2,227
Store-related remodels	3,749	3,888	2,575
Distribution center	1,127	1,487	384
Computer hardware, software and other	1,006	480	578
Total	\$ 12,990	\$ 15,628	\$ 5,764

Capital spending in fiscal 2011 and 2010 reflected the resumption of our new store expansion program. Capital spending levels in fiscal 2009 were lower due to substantially fewer new store openings as a result of efforts to conserve capital in response to the economic recession. Our capital expenditures included 11 new stores and two relocations in fiscal 2011; 11 new stores and four relocations in fiscal 2010; and three new stores in fiscal 2009. Capital expenditures in fiscal 2011, 2010 and 2009 also included amounts related to the implementation of computer system improvements and enhanced security measures to support our infrastructure.

Financing Activities. Net cash provided by financing activities for fiscal 2011 was \$9.1 million, and net cash used in financing activities for fiscal 2010 and 2009 was \$14.4 million and \$51.6 million, respectively. For fiscal 2011, cash provided by financing activities primarily reflected increased borrowings under our revolving credit facility, partially offset by dividend payments and capital lease payments. Borrowings under our revolving credit facility were largely used to fund merchandise inventory purchases. For fiscal 2010, we used cash provided from operating activities to pay down borrowings from our revolving credit facility, pay dividends and make lease payments. The lower payoff of borrowings under our revolving credit facility in fiscal 2010 compared with fiscal 2009 primarily reflected increased funding of inventory purchases along with the resumption of our new store expansion program in fiscal 2010. For fiscal 2009, cash provided by operating activities was used to pay down a significant portion of borrowings under our revolving credit facility, and we reduced our quarterly dividend payments to \$0.05 per share in order to preserve capital.

As of January 1, 2012, we had revolving credit borrowings of \$63.5 million and letter of credit commitments of \$3.7 million outstanding. These balances compare to borrowings of \$48.3 million and letter of credit commitments of \$0.8 million outstanding as of January 2, 2011.

Our revolving credit facility balances have historically increased from the end of the first quarter to the end of the second quarter and from the end of the third quarter to the week of Thanksgiving. The historical increases

in our revolving credit facility balances reflect the build-up of inventory in anticipation of our summer and winter selling seasons. Revolving credit facility balances typically fall from the week of Thanksgiving to the end of the fourth quarter, reflecting inventory sales during the holiday and winter selling season. The increase in our revolving credit borrowings at the end of fiscal 2011 compared to the end of fiscal 2010 primarily reflects higher inventory levels, as discussed above, combined with lower accounts payable as a percentage of inventory due in part to the timing of payments.

Quarterly dividend payments of \$0.05 per share, for an annual rate of \$0.20 per share, were paid in fiscal 2009 and 2010. In fiscal 2011, our Board of Directors declared quarterly cash dividends of \$0.075 per share of outstanding common stock, for an annual rate of \$0.30 per share. In the first quarter of fiscal 2012, our Board of Directors declared a quarterly cash dividend of \$0.075 per share of outstanding common stock, which will be paid on March 22, 2012 to stockholders of record as of March 8, 2012.

Periodically, we repurchase our common stock in the open market pursuant to programs approved by our Board of Directors. Depending on business conditions, we may repurchase our common stock for a variety of reasons, including the current market price of our stock, to offset dilution related to equity-based compensation plans and to optimize our capital structure.

Our Board of Directors authorized two share repurchase programs for the purchase of \$15.0 million and \$20.0 million of our common stock. Under the authorizations, we may purchase shares from time to time in the open market or in privately negotiated transactions in compliance with the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). However, the timing and amount of such purchases, if any, would be at the discretion of management, and would depend upon market conditions and other considerations. Prior to fiscal 2009, we repurchased 1,369,085 shares of our common stock under these programs for \$20.8 million. In light of the economic climate, we did not repurchase any shares of our common stock under these programs during fiscal 2009 or fiscal 2010. In the fourth quarter of fiscal 2011, we resumed our share repurchase activity under these programs, repurchasing 109,550 shares of our common stock for \$1.0 million. Since the inception of our initial share repurchase program in May 2006 through January 1, 2012, we have repurchased a total of 1,478,635 shares for \$21.8 million, leaving a total of \$13.2 million available for share repurchases under our current share repurchase program.

Credit Agreement. On October 18, 2010, we entered into a credit agreement (the Credit Agreement) with Wells Fargo Bank, National Association (Wells Fargo), as administrative agent, and a syndicate of other lenders. Initial borrowings under the Credit Agreement on October 18, 2010 were used to, among other things, repay all of our outstanding indebtedness under our prior financing agreement, at which time the prior financing agreement was terminated. As further discussed below, the Credit Agreement was amended on October 31, 2011.

The Credit Agreement provides for a revolving credit facility (the Credit Facility) with an aggregate committed availability of up to \$140.0 million, which amount may be increased at our option up to a maximum of \$165.0 million. We may also request additional increases in aggregate availability, up to a maximum of \$200.0 million, in which case the existing lenders under the Credit Agreement will have the option to increase their commitments to accommodate the requested increase. If such existing lenders do not exercise that option, we may (with the consent of Wells Fargo, not to be unreasonably withheld) seek other lenders willing to provide such commitments. The Credit Facility includes a \$50.0 million sublimit for issuances of letters of credit and a \$20.0 million sublimit for swingline loans. All amounts outstanding under the Credit Facility were originally to mature and become due on October 18, 2014. On October 31, 2011, the Credit Agreement was amended to extend its maturity date to October 31, 2016 (see discussion below). As of January 1, 2012 and January 2, 2011, our total remaining borrowing availability under the Credit Agreement, after subtracting letters of credit, was \$72.8 million and \$90.9 million, respectively.

We may borrow under the Credit Facility from time to time, provided the amounts outstanding will not exceed the lesser of the then aggregate availability (as discussed above) and the Borrowing Base (such lesser amount being referred to as the Loan Cap). The Borrowing Base generally is comprised of the sum, at the time of calculation of (a) 90.00% of our eligible credit card accounts receivable; plus (b)(i) during the period of September 15 through December 15 of each year, the cost of our eligible inventory, net of inventory reserves, multiplied by 90.00% of the appraised net orderly liquidation value of eligible inventory (expressed as a percentage of the cost of eligible inventory); and (ii) at all other times, the cost of our eligible inventory, net of inventory reserves, multiplied by 85.00% of the appraised net orderly liquidation value of eligible inventory (expressed as a percentage of the cost of eligible inventory); plus (c) the lesser of (i) the cost of our eligible in-transit inventory, net of inventory reserves,

multiplied by 85.00% of the appraised net orderly liquidation value of our eligible in-transit inventory (expressed as a percentage of the cost of eligible in-transit inventory), or (ii) \$10.0 million, minus (d) certain reserves established by Wells Fargo in its role as the Administrative Agent in its reasonable discretion.

Generally, we may designate specific borrowings under the Credit Facility as either base rate loans or LIBO rate loans. In each case, prior to the amendment dated October 31, 2011 (see discussion below), the applicable interest rate was a function of the daily average, over the preceding fiscal quarter, of the excess of the Loan Cap over amounts outstanding under the Credit Facility (such amount being referred to as the Average Daily Excess Availability). Those loans designated as LIBO rate loans shall bear interest at a rate equal to the then applicable LIBO rate plus an applicable margin as shown in the table below. Those loans designated as base rate loans shall bear interest at a rate equal to the applicable margin for base rate loans (as shown below) plus the highest of (a) the Federal funds rate, as in effect from time to time, plus one-half of one percent (0.50%), (b) the LIBO rate, as adjusted to account for statutory reserves, plus one percent (1.00%), or (c) the rate of interest in effect for such day as publicly announced from time to time by Wells Fargo as its prime rate. Prior to the amendment discussed below, the applicable margin for all loans was as set forth below as a function of Average Daily Excess Availability for the preceding fiscal quarter.

Level	Average Daily Excess Availability	LIBO Rate Applicable Margin	Base Rate Applicable Margin
I	Greater than 50% of the Loan Cap	2.00%	1.00%
II	Less than or equal to 50% of the Loan Cap	2.25%	1.25%

Obligations under the Credit Facility are secured by a general lien and perfected security interest in substantially all of our assets. Our Credit Agreement contains covenants that require us to maintain a fixed charge coverage ratio of not less than 1.0:1.0 in certain circumstances, and limit our ability to, among other things, incur liens, incur additional indebtedness, transfer or dispose of assets, change the nature of the business, guarantee obligations, pay dividends or make other distributions or repurchase stock, and make advances, loans or investments. We may declare or pay cash dividends or repurchase stock only if, among other things, no default or event of default then exists or would arise from such dividend or repurchase of stock and, after giving effect to such dividend or repurchase, certain availability and/or fixed charge coverage ratio requirements are satisfied. The Credit Agreement contains customary events of default, including, without limitation, failure to pay when due principal amounts with respect to the Credit Facility, failure to pay any interest or other amounts under the Credit Facility for five days after becoming due, failure to comply with certain agreements or covenants contained in the Credit Agreement, failure to satisfy certain judgments against us, failure to pay when due (or any other default which does or may lead to the acceleration of) certain other material indebtedness in principal amount in excess of \$5.0 million, and certain insolvency and bankruptcy events.

On October 31, 2011, we entered into a First Amendment to Credit Agreement and amended certain provisions of our Credit Agreement. After the amendment, the applicable interest rate on our borrowings will be a function of the daily average, over the preceding fiscal quarter, of the excess of the Credit Facility over amounts borrowed (such amount being referred to as the Average Daily Excess Availability). Those loans designated as LIBO rate loans shall bear interest at a rate equal to the then applicable LIBO rate plus an applicable margin as shown in the table below. Those loans designated as base rate loans shall bear interest at a rate equal to the applicable margin for base rate loans (as shown below) plus the highest of (a) the Federal funds rate, as in effect from time to time, plus one-half of one percent (0.50%), (b) the LIBO rate, as adjusted to account for statutory reserves, plus one percent (1.00%), or (c) the rate of interest in effect for such day as publicly announced from time to time by Wells Fargo as its prime rate. The applicable margin for all loans will be as set forth below as a function of Average Daily Excess Availability for the preceding fiscal quarter.

Level	Average Daily Excess Availability	LIBO Rate Applicable Margin	Base Rate Applicable Margin
I	Greater than or equal to \$70,000,000	1.50%	0.50%
II	Greater than or equal to \$40,000,000	1.75%	0.75%
III	Less than \$40,000,000	2.00%	1.00%

The amendment reduced the commitment fee assessed on the unused portion of the Credit Facility to 0.375% per annum. The amendment also extended the maturity date of the Credit Agreement from October 18, 2014 to October 31, 2016 and modified the provisions for restricting certain payments and investments.

The following table provides information about our revolving credit borrowings as of and for the periods indicated:

	Fiscal Year	
	2011	2010
	(Dollars in thousands)	
Fiscal year-end balance	\$ 63,476	\$ 48,313
Average interest rate	2.53%	2.05%
Maximum outstanding during the year	\$ 106,095	\$ 94,687
Average outstanding during the year	\$ 67,489	\$ 59,996

Future Capital Requirements. We had cash and cash equivalents on hand of \$4.9 million at January 1, 2012. We expect capital expenditures for fiscal 2012, excluding non-cash acquisitions, to range from approximately \$15.0 million to \$18.0 million, primarily to fund the opening of new stores, store-related remodeling, distribution center equipment and computer hardware and software purchases. For fiscal 2012, we expect to open approximately ten new stores and relocate approximately seven stores. Of the seven stores expected to be relocated in fiscal 2012, we anticipate closing approximately four stores this year and the remaining three stores in fiscal 2013.

Quarterly dividend payments of \$0.05 per share of outstanding common stock, for an annual rate of \$0.20 per share, were paid in fiscal 2010. In the first quarter of fiscal 2011, our Board of Directors increased our quarterly cash dividend to \$0.075 per share of outstanding common stock, for an annual rate of \$0.30 per share, which was paid in fiscal 2011. In the first quarter of fiscal 2012, our Board of Directors declared a quarterly cash dividend of \$0.075 per share of outstanding common stock, which will be paid on March 22, 2012 to stockholders of record as of March 8, 2012.

As of February 23, 2012, a total of \$12.1 million remained available for share repurchases under our share repurchase program. We consider several factors in determining when and if we make share repurchases including, among other things, our alternative cash requirements, existing business conditions and the market price of our stock.

We believe we will be able to fund our cash requirements, for at least the next twelve months, from cash and cash equivalents on hand, operating cash flows and borrowings from our revolving credit facility. However, our ability to satisfy our cash requirements depends upon our future performance, which in turn is subject to general economic conditions and regional risks, and to financial, business and other factors affecting our operations, including factors beyond our control. There is no assurance that we will be able to generate sufficient cash flow or that we will be able to maintain our ability to borrow under our revolving credit facility.

If we are unable to generate sufficient cash flow from operations to meet our obligations and commitments, or if we are unable to maintain our ability to borrow sufficient amounts under our Credit Agreement, we will be required to refinance or restructure our indebtedness or raise additional debt or equity capital. Additionally, we may be required to sell material assets or operations, suspend or reduce dividend payments or delay or forego expansion opportunities. We might not be able to implement successful alternative strategies on satisfactory terms, if at all.

Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements and Contractual Obligations. Our material off-balance sheet arrangements are operating lease obligations and letters of credit. We excluded these items from the balance sheet in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). A summary of our operating lease obligations and letter of credit commitments by fiscal year is included in the table below. Additional information regarding our operating leases is available in Item 2, *Properties* and Note 7, *Lease Commitments*, of the notes to consolidated financial statements included in Item 8, *Financial Statements and Supplementary Data*, of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Our future obligations and commitments as of January 1, 2012, include the following:

	Total	Payments Due by Period			
		Less Than	1-3	3-5	After 5
		1 Year	Years (In thousands)	Years	Years
Capital lease obligations	\$ 5,131	\$ 1,796	\$ 2,656	\$ 679	\$
Lease commitments:					
Operating lease commitments	310,514	64,695	114,196	69,790	61,833
Other occupancy costs	65,590	13,394	23,728	14,952	13,516
Other liabilities	9,119	2,506	2,846	1,487	2,280
Revolving credit facility	63,476			63,476	
Letters of credit	3,710	3,710			
Total	\$ 457,540	\$ 86,101	\$ 143,426	\$ 150,384	\$ 77,629

Capital lease obligations, which include imputed interest, consist principally of leases for some of our distribution center delivery tractors, management information systems hardware and point-of-sale equipment for our stores. Payments for these lease obligations are provided by cash flows generated from operations or through borrowings from our revolving credit facility.

Operating lease commitments consist principally of leases for our retail store facilities, distribution center and corporate office. These leases frequently include options which permit us to extend the terms beyond the initial fixed lease term. With respect to most of those leases, we intend to renegotiate those leases as they expire.

Operating lease commitments also include a lease commitment for a building adjacent to our corporate office. The lease term for this property commenced in 2009 and the primary term expires on February 28, 2019. In accordance with terms of the lease agreement, we are committed to the construction of a new retail building on the premises before the primary term expires in 2019. We are not yet able to determine the ultimate amount of the construction commitment.

Other occupancy costs include estimated property maintenance fees and property taxes for our stores, distribution center and corporate headquarters.

Other liabilities consist principally of actuarially-determined reserve estimates related to self-insurance liabilities, a contractual obligation for the surviving spouse of Robert W. Miller, our co-founder, and asset retirement obligations related to the removal of leasehold improvements for certain stores upon termination of their leases.

Periodic interest payments on the Credit Agreement are not included in the preceding table because interest expense is based on variable indices, and the balance of our Credit Agreement fluctuates daily depending on operating, investing and financing cash flows. Assuming no changes in our revolving credit facility debt or interest rates as of the fiscal 2011 year-end, our projected annual interest payments would be approximately \$1.6 million.

Issued and outstanding letters of credit were \$3.7 million at January 1, 2012, and were related primarily to securing insurance program liabilities.

In the ordinary course of business, we enter into arrangements with vendors to purchase merchandise in advance of expected delivery. Because most of these purchase orders do not contain any termination payments or other penalties if cancelled, they are not included as outstanding contractual obligations.

Critical Accounting Estimates

Our critical accounting estimates are included in our significant accounting policies as described in Note 2 of the consolidated financial statements included in Item 8, *Financial Statements and Supplementary Data*, of this Annual Report on Form 10-K. Those consolidated financial statements were prepared in accordance with GAAP. Critical accounting estimates are those that we believe are most important to the portrayal of our financial condition and results of operations. The preparation of our consolidated financial statements requires us to make estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenue and expense. Our estimates are evaluated on an ongoing basis and drawn from historical experience, current trends and other factors that management believes to be relevant at the time our consolidated financial statements are prepared. Actual results may differ from our estimates. Management believes that the following accounting estimates reflect the more significant judgments and estimates we use in preparing our consolidated financial statements.

Valuation of Merchandise Inventories, Net

Our merchandise inventories are made up of finished goods and are valued at the lower of cost or market using the weighted-average cost method that approximates the first-in, first-out (FIFO) method. Average cost includes the direct purchase price of merchandise inventory, net of vendor allowances and cash discounts, and allocated overhead costs associated with our distribution center.

We record valuation reserves on a quarterly basis for merchandise damage and defective returns, merchandise items with slow-moving or obsolescence exposure and merchandise that has a carrying value that exceeds market value. These reserves are estimates of a reduction in value to reflect inventory valuation at the lower of cost or market. The reserve for merchandise returns is based upon the determination of the historical net realizable value of products sold from our returned goods inventory or returned to vendors for credit. Our reserve for merchandise returns includes amounts for returned product on-hand as well as damaged and defective merchandise in the chainwide merchandise inventory. Factors included in determining slow-moving or obsolescence reserve estimates include current and anticipated demand or customer preferences, merchandise aging, seasonal trends and decisions to discontinue certain products. Because of our merchandise mix, we have not historically experienced significant occurrences of obsolescence. Our inventory valuation reserves for merchandise returns, slow-moving or obsolescent merchandise and for lower of cost or market provisions totaled \$3.1 million and \$2.7 million as of January 1, 2012 and January 2, 2011, respectively, representing approximately 1% of our merchandise inventory for both periods.

Inventory shrinkage is accrued as a percentage of merchandise sales based on historical inventory shrinkage trends. We perform physical inventories at each of our stores at least once per year and cycle count inventories encompassing all inventory items at least once every quarter at our distribution center. The reserve for inventory shrinkage primarily represents an estimate for inventory shrinkage for each store since the last physical inventory date through the reporting date. Inventory shrinkage can be impacted by internal factors such as the level of investment in employee training and loss prevention and external factors such as the health of the overall economy, and shrink reserve estimates can vary from actual results. Our reserve for inventory shrinkage was \$2.0 million and \$1.9 million as of January 1, 2012 and January 2, 2011, respectively, representing approximately 1% of our merchandise inventory for both periods.

A 10% change in our inventory reserves estimate in total at January 1, 2012, would result in a change in reserves of approximately \$0.5 million and a change in pre-tax earnings by the same amount. Our reserves are estimates, which could vary significantly, either favorably or unfavorably, from actual results if future economic conditions, consumer demand and competitive environments differ from our expectations. At this time, we do not believe that there is a reasonable likelihood that there will be a material change in the future estimates or assumptions that we use to calculate our inventory reserves.

Valuation of Long-Lived Assets

We review our long-lived assets for impairment at least annually or whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of an asset may not be recoverable.

Long-lived assets are reviewed for recoverability at the lowest level in which there are identifiable cash flows (asset group), usually at the store level. Each store typically requires investments of approximately \$0.6 million in long-lived assets to be held and used, subject to recoverability testing. The carrying amount of an asset group is not considered recoverable if it exceeds the sum of the undiscounted cash flows expected to result from the

asset group. If the asset group is determined not to be recoverable, then an impairment charge will be recognized in the amount by which the carrying amount of the asset group exceeds its fair value, determined using discounted cash flow valuation techniques, as defined in the impairment provisions of Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) No. 360, *Property, Plant, and Equipment*.

We determine the sum of the undiscounted cash flows expected to result from the asset group by projecting future revenue and operating expense for each store under consideration for impairment. The estimates of future cash flows involve management judgment and are based upon assumptions about expected future operating performance. Assumptions used in these forecasts are consistent with internal planning, and include assumptions about sales, margins, operating expense and advertising expense in relation to the current economic environment and our future expectations, competitive factors in our various markets and inflation. The actual cash flows could differ from management's estimates due to changes in business conditions, operating performance and economic conditions.

Our evaluation resulted in a pre-tax impairment charge of \$2.1 million recognized in fiscal 2011 related to certain underperforming stores. No long-lived asset impairment charges were incurred during fiscal 2010 and 2009.

A 10% change in the sum of our undiscounted cash flow estimates resulting from different assumptions used at January 1, 2012, would not result in a change in long-lived asset impairment charges for fiscal 2011.

Self-Insurance Liabilities

We maintain self-insurance programs for our estimated commercial general liability risk and, in certain states, our estimated workers compensation liability risk. In addition, effective January 1, 2010, we have a self-insurance program for a portion of our employee medical benefits. Under these programs, we maintain insurance coverage for losses in excess of specified per-occurrence amounts. Estimated costs under the self-insured workers' compensation and medical benefits programs, including incurred but not reported claims, are recorded as expense based upon historical experience, trends of paid and incurred claims, and other actuarial assumptions. If actual claims trends under these programs, including the severity or frequency of claims, differ from our estimates, our financial results may be significantly impacted. Our estimated self-insurance liabilities are classified in our balance sheet as accrued expenses or other long-term liabilities based upon whether they are expected to be paid during or beyond our normal operating cycle of 12 months from the date of our consolidated financial statements. As of January 1, 2012 and January 2, 2011, our self-insurance liabilities totaled \$8.2 million and \$7.8 million, respectively.

A 10% change in our estimated self-insurance liabilities estimate as of January 1, 2012, would result in a change in our liability of approximately \$0.8 million and a change in pre-tax earnings by the same amount.

Seasonality and Impact of Inflation

We experience seasonal fluctuations in our net sales and operating results and historically have generated higher net sales in the fourth fiscal quarter, which includes the holiday selling season. Accordingly, in the fourth fiscal quarter we experience normally higher purchase volumes and increased expense for staffing and advertising. Seasonality influences our buying patterns which directly impacts our merchandise and accounts payable levels and cash flows. We purchase merchandise for seasonal activities in advance of a season. If we miscalculate the demand for our products generally or for our product mix during the fourth fiscal quarter, our net sales can decline, which can harm our financial performance. A shortfall from expected fourth fiscal quarter net sales can negatively impact our annual operating results, as occurred in fiscal 2011.

Beginning in the second half of fiscal 2010, continuing through fiscal 2011 and into the first quarter of fiscal 2012, we have experienced increasing inflation in the purchase cost, including transportation cost, of certain products received in fiscal 2011 or expected to be received in fiscal 2012. If we are unable to adjust our selling prices for purchase cost increases then our merchandise margins will decline, which will adversely impact our operating results. Our lower merchandise margins for fiscal 2011 compared to fiscal 2010 partially reflected purchase cost increases.

Recently Issued Accounting Updates

See Note 2 to consolidated financial statements included in Item 8, *Financial Statements and Supplementary Data*, of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Forward-Looking Statements

This document includes certain forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Such forward-looking statements relate to, among other things, our financial condition, our results of operations, our growth strategy and the business of our company generally. In some cases, you can identify such statements by terminology such as *may*, *could*, *project*, *estimate*, *potential*, *continue*, *should*, *expects*, *plans*, *anticipates*, *believes*, *intends* or other such terminology. These forward-looking statements involve unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause our actual results in future periods to differ materially from forecasted results. These risks and uncertainties include, among other things, continued or worsening weakness in the consumer spending environment and the U.S. financial and credit markets, the competitive environment in the sporting goods industry in general and in our specific market areas, inflation, product availability and growth opportunities, seasonal fluctuations, weather conditions, changes in cost of goods, operating expense fluctuations, litigation risks, disruption in product flow, changes in interest rates, credit availability, higher costs associated with sources of credit resulting from uncertainty in financial markets and economic conditions in general. Those and other risks and uncertainties are more fully described in Part I, Item 1A, *Risk Factors*, in this report. We caution that the risk factors set forth in this report are not exclusive. In addition, we conduct our business in a highly competitive and rapidly changing environment. Accordingly, new risk factors may arise. It is not possible for management to predict all such risk factors, nor to assess the impact of all such risk factors on our business or the extent to which any individual risk factor, or combination of factors, may cause results to differ materially from those contained in any forward-looking statement. We undertake no obligation to revise or update any forward-looking statement that may be made from time to time by us or on our behalf.

ITEM 7A. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

We are subject to risks resulting from interest rate fluctuations since interest on our borrowings under our Credit Facility is based on variable rates. We enter into borrowings under our Credit Facility principally for working capital, capital expenditures and general corporate purposes. We routinely evaluate the best use of our cash and cash equivalents on hand and manage financial statement exposure to interest rate fluctuations by managing our level of indebtedness and the interest base rate options on such indebtedness. We do not utilize derivative instruments and do not engage in foreign currency transactions or hedging activities to manage our interest rate risk. If the interest rate on our debt was to change 1.0% as compared to the rate at January 1, 2012, our interest expense would change approximately \$0.6 million on an annual basis based on the outstanding balance of our borrowings under our Credit Facility at January 1, 2012.

Inflationary factors and changes in foreign currency rates can increase the purchase cost of our products. If we are unable to adjust our selling prices for purchase cost increases then our merchandise margins will decline, which will adversely impact our operating results. All of our stores are located in the United States, and all imported merchandise is purchased in U.S. dollars.

ITEM 8. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

The financial statements and the supplementary financial information required by this Item and included in this Annual Report on Form 10-K are listed in the Index to consolidated financial statements beginning on page F-1.

ITEM 9. CHANGES IN AND DISAGREEMENTS WITH ACCOUNTANTS ON ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

None.

ITEM 9A. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures

We maintain a system of disclosure controls and procedures that are designed to provide reasonable assurance that information which is required to be timely disclosed is accumulated and communicated to our management, including our Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Chief Financial Officer (CFO), in a timely fashion. We conducted an evaluation, under the supervision and with the participation of our CEO and CFO, of the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures (as such term is defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act)) as of January 1, 2012. Based on such evaluation, our CEO and CFO have concluded that, as of January 1, 2012, our disclosure controls and procedures are effective, at a reasonable assurance level, in recording, processing, summarizing and reporting, on a timely basis, information required to be disclosed by us in the reports that we file or submit under the Exchange Act and are effective in ensuring that information required to be disclosed by us in the reports that we file or submit under the Exchange Act is accumulated and communicated to our management, including our CEO and CFO, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

Management's Annual Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting as defined in Rule 13a-15(f) under the Exchange Act.

Our internal control over financial reporting includes policies and procedures that pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect transactions and disposition of assets; provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of consolidated financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP), and that receipts and expenditures are being made only in accordance with the authorization of our management and directors; and provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use or disposition of our assets that could have a material effect on our consolidated financial statements.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projection of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods is subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

Management conducted an assessment of the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of January 1, 2012, based upon the *Internal Control Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO). Based on this assessment, management has concluded that, as of January 1, 2012, we maintained effective internal control over financial reporting. The attestation report issued by Deloitte & Touche LLP, our independent registered public accounting firm, on our internal control over financial reporting is included herein.

Changes in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

There has been no change in our internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rule 13a-15(f) under the Exchange Act) during the most recent fiscal quarter that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

To the Board of Directors and Stockholders of

Big 5 Sporting Goods Corporation

El Segundo, California

We have audited the internal control over financial reporting of Big 5 Sporting Goods Corporation and subsidiaries (the Company) as of January 1, 2012, 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 Annual 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 generally accepted accounting principles. 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 effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that 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 January 1, 2012, based on the criteria established in *Internal Control Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission.

We also have 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 January 1, 2012 of the Company and our report dated February 29, 2012 expressed an unqualified opinion on those financial statements and financial statement schedule.

/s/ Deloitte & Touche LLP

Los Angeles, California

February 29, 2012

ITEM 9B. OTHER INFORMATION

None.

PART III

ITEM 10. DIRECTORS, EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

The information required by this Item has been omitted and will be incorporated herein by reference, when filed, to our Proxy Statement, which is expected to be filed not later than 120 days after the end of our fiscal year ended January 1, 2012.

ITEM 11. EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

The information required by this Item has been omitted and will be incorporated herein by reference, when filed, to our Proxy Statement, which is expected to be filed not later than 120 days after the end of our fiscal year ended January 1, 2012.

ITEM 12. SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT AND RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS

The information required by this Item has been omitted and will be incorporated herein by reference, when filed, to our Proxy Statement, which is expected to be filed not later than 120 days after the end of our fiscal year ended January 1, 2012.

ITEM 13. CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS, AND DIRECTOR INDEPENDENCE

The information required by this Item has been omitted and will be incorporated herein by reference, when filed, to our Proxy Statement, which is expected to be filed not later than 120 days after the end of our fiscal year ended January 1, 2012.

ITEM 14. PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING FEES AND SERVICES

The information required by this Item has been omitted and will be incorporated herein by reference, when filed, to our Proxy Statement, which is expected to be filed not later than 120 days after the end of our fiscal year ended January 1, 2012.

PART IV

ITEM 15. EXHIBITS, FINANCIAL STATEMENT SCHEDULES

(a) Documents filed as part of this report:

(1) Financial Statements.

See Index to Consolidated Financial Statements on page F-1 hereof.

(2) Financial Statement Schedule.

See Index to Consolidated Financial Statements on page F-1 hereof.

(3) Exhibits.

See Index to Exhibits on page E-1 hereof immediately following the financial statements, which is hereby incorporated by reference into this Item 15. Certain exhibits are incorporated by reference from documents previously filed by the Company with the SEC as required by Item 601 of Regulation S-K.

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.

BIG 5 SPORTING GOODS CORPORATION,
a Delaware corporation

Date: February 29, 2012

By: */s/ Steven G. Miller*
Steven G. Miller
Chairman of the Board of Directors,

President, Chief Executive Officer and

Director of the Company

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 dates indicated:

<u>Signatures</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>
<i>/s/ Steven G. Miller</i>	Chairman of the Board of Directors,	February 29, 2012
Steven G. Miller	President, Chief Executive Officer and Director of the Company (Principal Executive Officer)	
<i>/s/ Barry D. Emerson</i>	Senior Vice President,	February 29, 2012
Barry D. Emerson	Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer (Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)	
<i>/s/ Sandra N. Bane</i> Sandra N. Bane	Director of the Company	February 29, 2012
<i>/s/ G. Michael Brown</i> G. Michael Brown	Director of the Company	February 29, 2012
<i>/s/ Dominic P. DeMarco</i> Dominic P. DeMarco	Director of the Company	February 29, 2012
<i>/s/ Jennifer Holden Dunbar</i> Jennifer Holden Dunbar	Director of the Company	February 29, 2012

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/s/ David R. Jessick
David R. Jessick

Director of the Company

February 29, 2012

/s/ Michael D. Miller
Michael D. Miller

Director of the Company

February 29, 2012

BIG 5 SPORTING GOODS CORPORATION

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Consolidated Financial Statement Schedule:	<u>Schedule</u>
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REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

To the Board of Directors and Stockholders of

Big 5 Sporting Goods Corporation

El Segundo, California

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Big 5 Sporting Goods Corporation and subsidiaries (the Company) as of January 1, 2012 and January 2, 2011, and the related consolidated statements of operations, stockholders' equity, and cash flows for the years ended January 1, 2012, January 2, 2011, and January 3, 2010. Our audits also included the financial statement schedule listed in the Index at Item 15(a)(2). These financial statements and financial statement schedule are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these 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 Big 5 Sporting Goods Corporation and subsidiaries as of January 1, 2012 and January 2, 2011, and the results of their operations and their cash flows for the years ended January 1, 2012, January 2, 2011, and January 3, 2010, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Also, in our opinion, such consolidated 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.

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 January 1, 2012, 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 February 29, 2012 expressed an unqualified opinion on the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

/s/ Deloitte & Touche LLP

Los Angeles, California

February 29, 2012

BIG 5 SPORTING GOODS CORPORATION**CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS**

(In thousands, except share amounts)

	January 1, 2012	January 2, 2011
ASSETS		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 4,900	\$ 5,620
Accounts receivable, net of allowances of \$142 and \$201, respectively	13,106	15,000
Merchandise inventories, net	264,278	254,217
Prepaid expenses	7,972	7,588
Deferred income taxes	8,410	9,447
Total current assets	298,666	291,872
Property and equipment, net	75,369	81,333
Deferred income taxes	13,236	12,396
Other assets, net of accumulated amortization of \$383 and \$69, respectively	2,360	2,322
Goodwill	4,433	4,433
Total assets	\$ 394,064	\$ 392,356
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 77,593	\$ 94,818
Accrued expenses	62,547	64,392
Current portion of capital lease obligations	1,617	1,925
Total current liabilities	141,757	161,135
Deferred rent, less current portion	22,483	24,349
Capital lease obligations, less current portion	3,145	1,569
Long-term debt	63,476	48,313
Other long-term liabilities	6,613	6,264
Total liabilities	237,474	241,630
Commitments and contingencies		
Stockholders' equity:		
Common stock, \$0.01 par value, authorized 50,000,000 shares; issued 23,483,815 and 23,315,832 shares, respectively; outstanding 21,890,970 and 21,832,537 shares, respectively	235	233
Additional paid-in capital	99,665	97,910
Retained earnings	79,037	73,949
Less: Treasury stock, at cost; 1,592,845 and 1,483,295 shares, respectively	(22,347)	(21,366)
Total stockholders' equity	156,590	150,726
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$ 394,064	\$ 392,356

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

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BIG 5 SPORTING GOODS CORPORATION**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS**

(In thousands, except per share data)

	January 1, 2012	Year Ended January 2, 2011	January 3, 2010
Net sales	\$ 902,134	\$ 896,813	\$ 895,542
Cost of sales	610,531	599,101	597,792
Gross profit	291,603	297,712	297,750
Selling and administrative expense	272,436	263,488	260,068
Operating income	19,167	34,224	37,682
Interest expense	2,561	2,108	2,465
Income before income taxes	16,606	32,116	35,217
Income taxes	4,933	11,554	13,406
Net income	\$ 11,673	\$ 20,562	\$ 21,811
Earnings per share:			
Basic	\$ 0.54	\$ 0.95	\$ 1.02
Diluted	\$ 0.53	\$ 0.94	\$ 1.01
Dividends per share	\$ 0.30	\$ 0.20	\$ 0.20
Weighted-average shares of common stock outstanding:			
Basic	21,656	21,552	21,434
Diluted	21,869	21,890	21,657

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

BIG 5 SPORTING GOODS CORPORATION

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY

(In thousands, except share amounts)

	Common Stock		Additional Paid-In	Retained	Treasury Stock,	Total
	Shares	Amount	Capital	Earnings	At Cost	
Balance at December 28, 2008	21,520,792	\$ 230	\$ 92,704	\$ 40,232	\$ (21,366)	\$ 111,800
Net income	-	-	-	21,811	-	21,811
Dividends on common stock (\$0.20 per share)	-	-	-	(4,305)	-	(4,305)
Issuance of nonvested share awards	12,000	-	-	-	-	-
Exercise of share option awards	42,775	-	425	-	-	425
Share-based compensation	-	-	2,139	-	-	2,139
Tax benefit from share-based awards activity	-	-	38	-	-	38
Forfeiture of nonvested share awards	(1,100)	-	-	-	-	-
Retirement of common stock for payment of withholding tax	(7,701)	-	(47)	-	-	(47)
Balance at January 3, 2010	21,566,766	230	95,259	57,738	(21,366)	131,861
Net income	-	-	-	20,562	-	20,562
Dividends on common stock (\$0.20 per share)	-	-	-	(4,351)	-	(4,351)
Issuance of nonvested share awards	172,000	2	(2)	-	-	-
Exercise of share option awards	104,175	1	756	-	-	757
Share-based compensation	-	-	1,727	-	-	1,727
Tax benefit from share-based awards activity	-	-	313	-	-	313
Forfeiture of nonvested share awards	(1,300)	-	-	-	-	-
Retirement of common stock for payment of withholding tax	(9,104)	-	(143)	-	-	(143)
Balance at January 2, 2011	21,832,537	233	97,910	73,949	(21,366)	150,726

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Net income				11,673		11,673					
Dividends on common stock (\$0.30 per share)	-	-	-	(6,585)	-	(6,585)					
Issuance of nonvested share awards	152,100	2	(2)	-	-	-					
Exercise of share option awards	48,262	-	316	-	-	316					
Share-based compensation	-	-	1,798	-	-	1,798					
Tax deficiency from share-based awards activity	-	-	(74)	-	-	(74)					
Forfeiture of nonvested share awards	(8,625)	-	-	-	-	-					
Retirement of common stock for payment of withholding tax	(23,754)	-	(283)	-	-	(283)					
Purchases of treasury stock	(109,550)	-	-	-	(981)	(981)					
Balance at January 1, 2012	21,890,970	\$	235	\$	99,665	\$	79,037	\$	(22,347)	\$	156,590

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

BIG 5 SPORTING GOODS CORPORATION**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**

(In thousands)

	January 1, 2012	Year Ended January 2, 2011	January 3, 2010
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net income	\$ 11,673	\$ 20,562	\$ 21,811
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:			
Depreciation and amortization	18,544	18,627	19,400
Impairment of store assets	2,116	-	-
Share-based compensation	1,798	1,727	2,139
Excess tax benefit related to share-based awards	(90)	(327)	(43)
Amortization of debt issuance costs	314	135	53
Deferred income taxes	197	(2,793)	2,684
(Gain) loss on disposal of property and equipment	(250)	18	(59)
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:			
Accounts receivable, net	2,144	(1,602)	3,213
Merchandise inventories, net	(10,061)	(23,306)	2,051
Prepaid expenses and other assets	(432)	2,008	(1,441)
Accounts payable	(19,789)	10,070	1,564
Accrued expenses and other long-term liabilities	(3,946)	4,748	2,715
Net cash provided by operating activities	2,218	29,867	54,087
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Purchases of property and equipment	(12,990)	(15,628)	(5,764)
Proceeds from solar energy rebate	500	-	-
Proceeds from disposal of property and equipment	502	4	-
Net cash used in investing activities	(11,988)	(15,624)	(5,764)
Cash flows from financing activities:			
Principal borrowings under current revolving credit facility	225,597	109,919	-
Principal payments under current revolving credit facility	(210,434)	(61,606)	-
Net principal payments under previous revolving credit facility	-	(54,955)	(41,544)
Changes in book overdraft	3,681	(991)	(3,914)
Debt issuance costs	(304)	(1,305)	-
Principal payments under capital lease obligations	(2,102)	(2,065)	(2,284)
Proceeds from exercise of share option awards	316	757	425
Excess tax benefit related to share-based awards	90	327	43
Purchases of treasury stock	(981)	-	-
Tax withholding payments for share-based compensation	(283)	(143)	(47)
Dividends paid	(6,530)	(4,326)	(4,295)
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	9,050	(14,388)	(51,616)
	(720)	(145)	(3,293)

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Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	5,620	5,765	9,058
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Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	\$ 4,900	\$ 5,620	\$ 5,765
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Supplemental disclosures of non-cash investing and financing activities:

Property and equipment acquired under capital leases	\$ 3,551	\$ 1,381	\$ 1,930
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Property and equipment purchases accrued	\$ 776	\$ 1,470	\$ 310
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Solar energy rebate receivable	\$ 250	\$ -	\$ -
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Supplemental disclosures of cash flow information:

Interest paid	\$ 2,182	\$ 1,882	\$ 2,706
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Income taxes paid	\$ 4,658	\$ 15,384	\$ 11,231
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See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

BIG 5 SPORTING GOODS CORPORATION

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(1) Description of Business

The accompanying consolidated financial statements as of January 1, 2012 and January 2, 2011 and for the years ended January 1, 2012 (fiscal 2011), January 2, 2011 (fiscal 2010) and January 3, 2010 (fiscal 2009), represent the financial position, results of operations and cash flows of Big 5 Sporting Goods Corporation (the Company) and its wholly owned subsidiary, Big 5 Corp. and Big 5 Corp.'s wholly owned subsidiary, Big 5 Services Corp. The Company operates as one business segment, as a sporting goods retailer under the Big 5 Sporting Goods name. The Company carries a full-line product offering, operating 406 stores at January 1, 2012 in California, Washington, Arizona, Oregon, Texas, New Mexico, Nevada, Utah, Idaho, Colorado, Oklahoma and Wyoming.

(2) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies
Consolidation

The accompanying consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Big 5 Sporting Goods Corporation, Big 5 Corp. and Big 5 Services Corp. Intercompany balances and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation.

Reporting Period

The Company follows the concept of a 52-53 week fiscal year, which ends on the Sunday nearest December 31. Fiscal 2011 and 2010 each included 52 weeks. Fiscal 2009 included 53 weeks.

Recently Issued Accounting Updates

In September 2011, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued Accounting Standards Update (ASU) No. 2011-08, *Intangibles Goodwill and Other*. ASU No. 2011-08 is intended to simplify goodwill impairment testing by adding a qualitative review step to assess whether the required quantitative impairment analysis that exists today is necessary. ASU No. 2011-08 permits an entity to first perform a qualitative assessment to determine whether it is more likely than not that the fair value of a reporting unit is less than its carrying value. If it is concluded that this is the case, it is necessary to perform the currently prescribed two-step goodwill impairment test. Otherwise, the two-step goodwill impairment test is not required. Additionally, an entity has the option to bypass the qualitative assessment in any period and proceed directly to performing the first step of the two-step goodwill impairment test. An entity may resume performing the qualitative assessment in any subsequent period. ASU No. 2011-08 is effective for annual and interim goodwill impairment tests performed for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2011. Early adoption is permitted, including for annual and interim goodwill impairment tests performed as of a date before September 15, 2011, if an entity's financial statements for the most recent annual or interim period have not yet been issued. The Company does not expect the adoption of ASU No. 2011-08 to have a material impact on its consolidated financial statements.

Use of Estimates

Management has made a number of estimates and assumptions relating to the reporting of assets, liabilities and stockholders' equity and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the consolidated financial statements and reported amounts of revenue and expense during the reporting period to prepare these consolidated financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). Certain items subject to such estimates and assumptions include the carrying amount of merchandise inventories, property and equipment, and goodwill; valuation allowances for receivables, sales returns and deferred income tax assets; estimates related to gift card breakage and the valuation of share-based compensation awards; and obligations related to asset retirements, litigation, self-insurance liabilities and employee benefits. Actual results could differ significantly from these estimates under different assumptions and conditions.

BIG 5 SPORTING GOODS CORPORATION**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

(continued)

Segment Reporting

The Company operates solely as a sporting goods retailer, with each store having similar square footage and offering essentially the same general product mix throughout the entire store chain. The Company's core customer demographic remains similar chainwide, as does the Company's process for the procurement and marketing of its product mix. Furthermore, the Company distributes its product mix chainwide from a single distribution center. Given the similar economic characteristics of the Company's store formats, the similar nature of the products sold, the type of customer and the method of distribution, the Company operates as one reportable segment as defined by Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) 280, *Segment Reporting*.

The approximate net sales attributable to hard goods, athletic and sport apparel, athletic and sport footwear and other for the periods presented are set forth as follows:

	2011	Fiscal Year 2010 (In thousands)	2009
Hard goods	\$ 491,493	\$ 491,106	\$ 487,178
Athletic and sport apparel	145,209	143,994	145,325
Athletic and sport footwear	262,558	259,889	259,989
Other sales	2,874	1,824	3,050
Net sales	\$ 902,134	\$ 896,813	\$ 895,542

Earnings Per Share

The Company calculates earnings per share in accordance with ASC 260, *Earnings Per Share*, which requires a dual presentation of basic and diluted earnings per share. Basic earnings per share is calculated by dividing net income by the weighted-average shares of common stock outstanding, reduced by shares repurchased and held in treasury, during the period. Diluted earnings per share represents basic earnings per share adjusted to include the potentially dilutive effect of outstanding share option awards, nonvested share awards and nonvested share unit awards.

Revenue Recognition

The Company earns revenue by selling merchandise primarily through its retail stores. Revenue is recognized when merchandise is sold and delivered to the customer and is shown net of estimated returns during the relevant period. The allowance for sales returns is estimated based upon historical experience.

Cash received from the sale of gift cards is recorded as a liability, and revenue is recognized upon the redemption of the gift card or when it is determined that the likelihood of redemption is remote (gift card breakage) and no liability to relevant jurisdictions exists. The Company determines the gift card breakage rate based upon historical redemption patterns and recognizes gift card breakage on a straight-line basis over the estimated gift card redemption period (20 quarters as of the end of fiscal 2011). The Company recognized approximately \$0.4 million, \$0.4 million and \$0.5 million in gift card breakage revenue for fiscal 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

The Company records sales tax collected from its customers on a net basis, and therefore excludes it from revenue as defined in ASC 605, *Revenue Recognition* (ASC 605).

Included in revenue are sales of returned merchandise to vendors specializing in the resale of defective or used products, which accounted for less than 1% of net sales in each of the periods reported.

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BIG 5 SPORTING GOODS CORPORATION

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(continued)

Cost of Sales

Cost of sales includes the cost of merchandise, net of discounts or allowances earned, freight, inventory reserves, buying, distribution center costs and store occupancy costs. Store occupancy costs include rent, amortization of leasehold improvements, common area maintenance, property taxes and insurance.

Selling and Administrative Expense

Selling and administrative expense includes store-related expense, other than store occupancy costs, as well as advertising, depreciation and amortization, expense associated with operating the Company's corporate headquarters and impairment charges, if any.

Vendor Allowances

The Company receives allowances for co-operative advertising and volume purchase rebates earned through programs with certain vendors. The Company records a receivable for these allowances which are earned but not yet received when it is determined the amounts are probable and reasonably estimable, in accordance with ASC 605. Amounts relating to the purchase of merchandise are treated as a reduction of inventory cost and reduce cost of goods sold as the merchandise is sold. Amounts that represent a reimbursement of costs incurred, such as advertising, are recorded as a reduction in selling and administrative expense. The Company performs detailed analyses to determine the appropriate amount of vendor allowances to be applied as a reduction of merchandise cost and selling and administrative expense.

Advertising Costs

Advertising costs are expensed when the advertising first occurs. Advertising expense, net of co-operative advertising allowances, amounted to \$47.6 million, \$44.9 million and \$45.8 million for fiscal 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively. Advertising expense is included in selling and administrative expense in the accompanying consolidated statements of operations. The Company receives co-operative advertising allowances from product vendors in order to subsidize qualifying advertising and similar promotional expenditures made relating to vendors' products. These advertising allowances are recognized as a reduction to selling and administrative expense when the Company incurs the advertising cost eligible for the credit. Co-operative advertising allowances recognized as a reduction to selling and administrative expense amounted to \$6.2 million, \$6.9 million and \$6.9 million for fiscal 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

Share-Based Compensation

The Company accounts for its share-based compensation in accordance with ASC 718, *Compensation - Stock Compensation*. Accordingly, the Company recognizes compensation expense on a straight-line basis over the requisite service period using the fair-value method for share option awards, nonvested share awards and nonvested share unit awards granted with service-only conditions. See Note 14 to the consolidated financial statements for a further discussion on share-based compensation.

Pre-opening Costs

Pre-opening costs for new stores, which consist primarily of payroll and recruiting costs, training, marketing, rent, travel and supplies, are expensed as incurred.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents consist of cash on hand and all highly liquid instruments purchased with a maturity of three months or less at the date of purchase. Bank overdrafts are recorded in accounts payable and accrued expenses.

Accounts Receivable

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Accounts receivable consist primarily of third party purchasing card receivables, amounts due from inventory vendors for returned products or co-operative advertising and amounts due from lessors for tenant

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BIG 5 SPORTING GOODS CORPORATION

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(continued)

improvement allowances. Accounts receivable have not historically resulted in any material credit losses. An allowance for doubtful accounts is provided when accounts are determined to be uncollectible.

Valuation of Merchandise Inventories, Net

The Company's merchandise inventories are made up of finished goods and are valued at the lower of cost or market using the weighted-average cost method that approximates the first-in, first-out (FIFO) method. Average cost includes the direct purchase price of merchandise inventory, net of vendor allowances and cash discounts, in-bound freight-related costs and allocated overhead costs associated with the Company's distribution center.

Management regularly reviews inventories and records valuation reserves for merchandise damage and defective returns, merchandise items with slow-moving or obsolescence exposure and merchandise that has a carrying value that exceeds market value. Because of its merchandise mix, the Company has not historically experienced significant occurrences of obsolescence.

Inventory shrinkage is accrued as a percentage of merchandise sales based on historical inventory shrinkage trends. The Company performs physical inventories of its stores at least once per year and cycle counts inventories at its distribution center throughout the year. The reserve for inventory shrinkage represents an estimate for inventory shrinkage for each store since the last physical inventory date through the reporting date.

These reserves are estimates, which could vary significantly, either favorably or unfavorably, from actual results if future economic conditions, consumer demand and competitive environments differ from expectations.

Prepaid Expenses

Prepaid expenses include the prepayment of various operating costs such as insurance, rent, property taxes, software maintenance and supplies, which are expensed when the operating cost is realized. Prepaid expenses also include the purchase of seasonal fish and game licenses from certain state and federal governmental agencies. The Company has a right to return these licenses if they are unsold. The prepaid expenses associated with seasonal fish and game licenses totaled \$0.5 million and \$0.4 million as of January 1, 2012 and January 2, 2011, respectively.

Property and Equipment, Net

Property and equipment are stated at cost and are being depreciated or amortized utilizing the straight-line method over the following estimated useful lives:

Land	Indefinite
Buildings	20 years
Leasehold improvements	Shorter of estimated useful life or term of lease
Furniture and equipment	3 - 10 years
Maintenance and repairs are expensed as incurred.	

Goodwill

Goodwill represents the excess of purchase price over fair value of net assets acquired. Under ASC 350, *Intangibles - Goodwill and Other*, goodwill is not amortized but evaluated for impairment annually or whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the value may not be recoverable.

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The Company performed an annual impairment test as of the end of fiscal 2011, 2010 and 2009, and determined that goodwill was not impaired. Furthermore, as of January 1, 2012, no goodwill impairment losses have been recognized since the adoption of ASC 350.

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BIG 5 SPORTING GOODS CORPORATION

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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Valuation of Long-Lived Assets

The Company reviews long-lived assets for impairment at least annually or whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of an asset may not be recoverable.

Long-lived assets are reviewed for recoverability at the lowest level in which there are identifiable cash flows (asset group), usually at the store level. Each store typically requires investments of approximately \$0.6 million in long-lived assets to be held and used, subject to recoverability testing. The carrying amount of an asset group is not considered recoverable if it exceeds the sum of the undiscounted cash flows expected to result from the asset group. If the asset group is determined not to be recoverable, then an impairment charge will be recognized in the amount by which the carrying amount of the asset group exceeds its fair value, determined using discounted cash flow valuation techniques, as defined in ASC 360, *Property, Plant, and Equipment*.

The Company determines the sum of the undiscounted cash flows expected to result from the asset group by projecting future revenue and operating expense for each store under consideration for impairment. The estimates of future cash flows involve management judgment and are based upon assumptions about expected future operating performance. Assumptions used in these forecasts are consistent with internal planning, and include assumptions about sales, margins, operating expense and advertising expense in relation to the current economic environment and future expectations, competitive factors in various markets and inflation. The actual cash flows could differ from management's estimates due to changes in business conditions, operating performance and economic conditions.

In fiscal 2011, the Company recognized a pre-tax non-cash impairment charge of \$2.1 million related to certain underperforming stores. This impairment charge is included in selling and administrative expense for fiscal 2011 in the consolidated statement of operations. No long-lived asset impairment charges were incurred during fiscal 2010 and 2009.

Leases and Deferred Rent

The Company accounts for its leases under the provisions of ASC 840, *Leases*.

The Company evaluates and classifies its leases as either operating or capital leases for financial reporting purposes. Operating lease commitments consist principally of leases for the Company's retail store facilities, distribution center and corporate office. Capital lease obligations consist principally of leases for some of the Company's distribution center delivery tractors, management information systems hardware and point-of-sale equipment for the Company's stores.

Certain of the leases for the Company's retail store facilities provide for payments based on future sales volumes at the leased location, which are not measurable at the inception of the lease. These contingent rents are expensed as they accrue.

Deferred rent represents the difference between rent paid and the amounts expensed for operating leases. Certain leases have scheduled rent increases, and certain leases include an initial period of free or reduced rent as an inducement to enter into the lease agreement (rent holidays). The Company recognizes rent expense for rent increases and rent holidays on a straight-line basis over the term of the underlying leases, without regard to when rent payments are made. The calculation of straight-line rent is based on the non-cancelable lease term when it is at least ten years or the reasonably assured lease term as defined in ASC 840 when the initial non-cancelable lease term is less than ten years.

Landlord allowances for tenant improvements, or lease incentives, are recorded as deferred rent and amortized on a straight-line basis over the reasonably assured lease term as a component of rent expense.

Asset Retirement Obligations

The Company accounts for its asset retirement obligations (ARO) in accordance with ASC 410, *Asset Retirement and Environmental Obligations*, which requires the recognition of a liability for the fair value of a legally required asset retirement obligation when incurred if the liability's fair value can be reasonably estimated. The

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BIG 5 SPORTING GOODS CORPORATION

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(continued)

Company's ARO liabilities are associated with the disposal and retirement of leasehold improvements resulting from contractual obligations at the end of a lease to restore the facility back to a condition specified in the lease agreement.

The Company records the net present value of the ARO liability and also records a related capital asset in an equal amount for those leases that contractually obligate the Company with an asset retirement obligation. The estimate of the ARO liability is based on a number of assumptions including store closing costs, inflation rates and discount rates. Accretion expense related to the ARO liability is recognized as operating expense. The capitalized asset is depreciated on a straight-line basis over the useful life of the leasehold improvement. Upon ARO removal, any difference between the actual retirement costs incurred and the recorded estimated ARO liability is recognized as an operating gain or loss in the consolidated statements of operations. The ARO liability, which totaled \$0.6 million and \$0.6 million as of January 1, 2012 and January 2, 2011, respectively, is included in other long-term liabilities in the accompanying consolidated balance sheets.

Self-Insurance Liabilities

The Company maintains self-insurance programs for its commercial general liability risk and, in certain states, its estimated workers compensation liability risk. The Company also has a self-funded insurance program for a portion of its employee medical benefits. Under these programs, the Company maintains insurance coverage for losses in excess of specified per-occurrence amounts. Estimated costs under the self-insured workers' compensation and medical benefits programs, including incurred but not reported claims, are recorded as expense based upon historical experience, trends of paid and incurred claims, and other actuarial assumptions. If actual claims trends under these programs, including the severity or frequency of claims, differ from the Company's estimates, its financial results may be significantly impacted. The Company's estimated self-insurance liabilities are classified on the balance sheet as accrued expenses or other long-term liabilities based upon whether they are expected to be paid during or beyond the normal operating cycle of 12 months from the date of the consolidated financial statements. Self-insurance liabilities totaled \$8.2 million and \$7.8 million as of January 1, 2012 and January 2, 2011, respectively, of which \$3.5 million and \$3.5 million were recorded as a component of accrued expenses as of January 1, 2012 and January 2, 2011, respectively, and \$4.7 million and \$4.3 million were recorded as a component of other long-term liabilities as of January 1, 2012 and January 2, 2011, respectively, in the accompanying consolidated balance sheets.

Income Taxes

Under the asset and liability method prescribed under ASC 740, *Income Taxes*, the Company recognizes deferred tax assets and liabilities for the future tax consequences attributable to differences between financial statement carrying amounts of assets and liabilities and their respective tax bases. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured using enacted tax rates expected to apply to taxable income in the years in which those temporary differences are expected to be realized or settled. The effect of a change in tax rates on deferred tax assets and liabilities is recognized in income in the period that includes the enactment date. The realizability of deferred tax assets is assessed throughout the year and a valuation allowance is recorded if necessary to reduce net deferred tax assets to the amount more likely than not to be realized.

ASC 740 provides that a tax benefit from an uncertain tax position may be recognized when it is more likely than not that the position will be sustained upon examination, including resolutions of any related appeals or litigation processes, based on the technical merits of the position. ASC 740 also provides guidance on measurement, derecognition, classification, interest and penalties, accounting in interim periods, disclosure and transition.

The Company's practice is to recognize interest accrued related to unrecognized tax benefits in interest expense and penalties in operating expense. At January 1, 2012 and January 2, 2011, the Company had no accrued interest or penalties.

BIG 5 SPORTING GOODS CORPORATION

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(continued)

Concentration of Risk

The Company maintains its cash and cash equivalents accounts in financial institutions. Accounts at these institutions are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) up to \$250,000. The Company performs ongoing evaluations of these institutions to limit its concentration risk exposure.

The Company operates traditional sporting goods retail stores located principally in the western United States. Because of this, the Company is subject to regional risks, such as the economy, including downturns in the housing market, state financial conditions, unemployment and gas prices. Other regional risks include weather conditions, power outages, earthquakes and other natural disasters specific to the states in which the Company operates.

The Company relies on a single distribution center located in Riverside, California, which services all of its stores. Any natural disaster or other serious disruption to the distribution center due to fire, earthquake or any other cause could damage a significant portion of inventory and could materially impair the Company's ability to adequately stock its stores.

A substantial amount of the Company's inventory is manufactured abroad, and shipped through the Port of Los Angeles. From time to time, shipping ports experience capacity constraints, labor strikes, work stoppages or other disruptions that may delay the delivery of imported products. In addition, acts of terrorism could significantly disrupt operations at shipping ports or otherwise impact transportation of the Company's imported merchandise. Disruptions at the Port of Los Angeles, or other shipping ports, may result in delays in the transportation of such products to the Company's distribution center and may ultimately delay the Company's ability to adequately stock its stores.

The Company purchases merchandise from approximately 800 suppliers, and the Company's 20 largest suppliers accounted for 37.3% of total purchases in fiscal 2011. One vendor represented greater than 5% of total purchases, at 7.7%, in fiscal 2011. A significant portion of the Company's purchases is manufactured abroad in countries such as China, Taiwan and South Korea. If a disruption of trade were to occur from the countries in which the suppliers of the Company's vendors are located, the Company may be unable to obtain sufficient quantities of products to satisfy its requirements, or the cost of obtaining products may increase.

The Company could be exposed to credit risk in the event of nonperformance by any lender under its revolving credit facility. Currently, there continues to be uncertainty in the financial and capital markets. The uncertainty in the market brings additional potential risks to the Company, including higher costs of credit, potential lender defaults, and potential commercial bank failures. The Company has received no indication that any such events will negatively impact the lenders under its current revolving credit facility; however, the possibility does exist.

BIG 5 SPORTING GOODS CORPORATION

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(continued)

(3) **Property and Equipment, Net**

Property and equipment, net, consist of the following:

	January 1, 2012	January 2, 2011
	(In thousands)	
Leasehold improvements	\$ 111,959	\$ 107,449
Furniture and equipment	128,861	122,438
Land		186
Building		434
	240,820	230,507
Accumulated depreciation and amortization	(166,227)	(152,218)
	74,593	78,289
Assets not placed into service	776	3,044
Property and equipment, net	\$ 75,369	\$ 81,333