

GAYLORD ENTERTAINMENT CO /DE

Form 10-K/A

April 07, 2004

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**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

**Washington, D.C. 20549**

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**Amendment No. 1  
to  
Form 10-K**

**FOR ANNUAL AND TRANSITION REPORTS**

**PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 13 OR 15(d) OF THE  
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

(Mark One)

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

**For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2003**

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

**For the transition period from            to**

**Commission File No. 1-13079**

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**Gaylord Entertainment Company**

*(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)*

**Delaware**

*(State or Other Jurisdiction of  
Incorporation or Organization)*

**One Gaylord Drive, Nashville, Tennessee**

*(Address of Principal Executive Offices)*

**73-0664379**

*(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)*

**37214**

*(Zip Code)*

**Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code:**

**(615) 316-6000**

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

**Common Stock \$ .01 par value**

*(Title of Class)*

**New York Stock Exchange**

*(Name of Exchange on Which Registered)*

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

**None**

*(Title of Class)*

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

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an accelerated filer (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Act). Yes  No

The aggregate market value of the shares of Common Stock held by non-affiliates of the registrant based on the closing price of the Common Stock on the New York Stock Exchange as of June 30, 2003 was approximately \$469,046,421.

### (APPLICABLE ONLY TO CORPORATE REGISTRANTS)

As of March 1, 2004, there were 39,467,814 shares of Common Stock outstanding.

### DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

Portions of the registrant's definitive Proxy Statement for the Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held May 7, 2004 are incorporated by reference into Part III of this Form 10-K.

## GAYLORD ENTERTAINMENT COMPANY

### 2003 FORM 10-K ANNUAL REPORT

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**PART I**

Throughout this report, we refer to Gaylord Entertainment Company, together with its subsidiaries, as we, us, Gaylord Entertainment, Gaylord, or the Company.

**Item 1. Business**

We are the only hospitality company whose stated primary focus is the large group meetings segment of the lodging market. Our hospitality business includes our Gaylord branded hotels consisting of the Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center in Nashville, Tennessee, the Gaylord Palms Resort & Convention Center near Orlando, Florida and the Gaylord Texan Resort & Convention Center near Dallas, Texas. We also own and operate the Radisson Hotel at Opryland in Nashville, Tennessee. Driven by our All-in-One-Place strategy, our award-winning Gaylord branded hotels incorporate not only high quality lodging, but also significant meeting, convention and exhibition space, superb food and beverage options and retail facilities within a single self-contained property. As a result, our properties provide a convenient and entertaining environment for our convention guests. In addition, our custom-tailored, all-inclusive solutions cater to the unique needs of meeting planners.

In order to strengthen and diversify our hospitality business, on November 20, 2003, we acquired ResortQuest International, Inc. (ResortQuest) in a stock-for-stock transaction. ResortQuest is a leading provider of vacation condominium and home rental property management services in premier destination resort locations in the United States and Canada (based on the number of units it manages), with a branded network of vacation rental properties. ResortQuest currently provides management services to approximately 19,300 vacation rental properties, approximately 17,800 of which are under exclusive management contracts and approximately 1,500 of which are under non-exclusive management contracts.

We also own and operate several attractions in Nashville, including the Grand Ole Opry, a live country music variety show, which is the nation's longest running radio show and an icon in country music. Our local Nashville attractions provide entertainment opportunities for Nashville-area residents and visitors, including our Nashville hotel and convention guests, while adding to our destination appeal.

We were originally incorporated in 1956 and were reorganized in connection with a 1997 corporate restructuring.

Our operations are organized into four principal business segments: (i) Hospitality, which includes our hotel operations; (ii) Opry and Attractions, which includes our Nashville attractions and assets related to the Grand Ole Opry; (iii) ResortQuest; and (iv) Corporate and Other. These four business segments Hospitality, Opry and Attractions Group, ResortQuest, and Corporate and Other represented approximately 82%, 14%, 4% and 0%, respectively, of total revenues in the calendar year ended December 31, 2003. Financial information by industry segment and our Gaylord hotel properties as of December 31, 2003 and for each of the three years in the period then ended, appears in Item 6, Selected Financial Data, and Item 7, Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, and in the Financial Reporting by Business Segments note (Note 20) to our Consolidated Financial Statements included in this annual report on Form 10-K.

**Strategy**

Our goal is to become the nation's premier hotel brand serving the meetings and conventions sector and to enhance our business by offering additional vacation and entertainment opportunities to our guests and target consumers. Our Gaylord branded hotels focus on the \$86 billion large group meetings market. Our properties and service are designed to appeal to meeting planners who arrange these large group meetings. As a result of the ResortQuest acquisition, we operate a leading provider of vacation, condominium and home rental management services with approximately 19,300 vacation rental properties under management. The Grand Ole Opry is one of the brands best-known by the country lifestyle consumer, which we estimate to be approximately 70 million people in the United States.

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*All-in-One-Place Product Offerings.* Through our All-in-One-Place strategy, our Gaylord branded hotels incorporate meeting and exhibition space, signature guest rooms, award-winning food and beverage offerings, fitness facilities and other attractions within a large hotel property so our attendees' needs are met in one location. This strategy creates a better experience for both meeting planners and our guests, while at the same time allowing us to capture a greater share of their event spending. It is through this strategy of a self-contained destination dedicated primarily to the meetings industry that our Gaylord Opryland hotel in Nashville and our Gaylord Palms hotel in Florida claim a place among the leading convention hotels in the country.

*Create Customer Rotation Between Our Hotels.* In order to further capitalize on our success in Nashville, we opened our Gaylord Palms in January 2002 and our new Gaylord Texan on April 2, 2004. In 2001, we refocused the efforts of our sales force to capitalize on our expansion and the desires of some of our large group clients to meet in different parts of the country each year. In addition, we establish relationships with new customers as we increase our geographic reach. For example, upon opening the Gaylord Palms, we added new association clients such as the North American Veterinarian Association. There is a significant opportunity to establish strong relationships with new customers and rotate them to our other properties. For example, the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) has contracted for approximately 25,000 room nights among our Gaylord branded hotels over the next 5 years.

*Leverage Brand Name Awareness.* We believe that the Grand Ole Opry is one of the most recognized entertainment brands within the United States. We promote the Grand Ole Opry name through a number of media outlets including our WSM-AM radio station, the Internet, television and performances by the Grand Ole Opry's members, many of whom are renowned country music artists. In addition to these long-standing promotion media, we believe that significant growth opportunities exist through leveraging and extending the Grand Ole Opry brand into other products and markets. As such, we have alliances in place with multiple distribution partners such as Great American Country (GAC) cable television channel, Westwood One Radio Network and Sirius Satellite Radio in an effort to foster brand extension. We are currently exploring additional products, such as television specials and retail products, through which we can capitalize on our brand affinity and awareness. We believe that licensing our brand for products may provide an opportunity to increase revenues and cash flow with relatively little capital investment.

*Capitalize on the ResortQuest Acquisition.* We believe the combination of Gaylord and ResortQuest has formed a stronger, more diversified hospitality company with the ability to offer a broader range of accommodations to existing and potential customers. We believe that there are significant opportunities to cross-sell hospitality products by offering ResortQuest's vacation properties to our country lifestyle consumers and introducing our hotels and country lifestyle offerings to ResortQuest's customers. Drawing upon the experience of our combined management teams, we believe that we can more fully develop the ResortQuest brand and take advantage of future growth opportunities through increased scale, improved operational efficiency and access to additional sources of capital. In addition, we have identified a number of cost saving opportunities and synergies, including eliminating redundant functions and optimizing the combined company's infrastructure.

## **Industry Description**

According to *Tradeshow Week*, the large group meetings market generated approximately \$86 billion of revenues for the companies that provide services to it. The convention hotel industry is estimated to have generated approximately \$15 billion of these revenues. These revenues include event producer total gross sales (which include exhibitor and sponsor expenditures) and attendee economic impact (which includes spending on lodging, meals, entertainment and in-city transportation), not all of which we capture. The convention hotels that attract these group meetings typically have at least 25,000 square feet of exhibit space, often have more than 1,000 guest rooms and, on average, contain approximately 119,000 square feet of exhibit space, 94,000 square feet of meeting space and 40 meeting rooms.

The large group meetings market is comprised of approximately one million events annually, of which approximately 80% are corporate meetings and 18% are association meetings. The large majority of these

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events requires less than 250,000 square feet of exhibit or meeting space, with only 8% requiring over 500,000 square feet. Examples of industries participating in these meetings include health care, home furnishings, computers, sporting goods and recreation, education, building and construction, industrial, agriculture, food and beverage, boats and automotive. Association-sponsored events, which draw a large number of attendees requiring extensive meeting space and room availability, account for over half of total group spending and economic impact. Because associations and trade shows generally select their sites 2 to 5 years in advance, thereby increasing earnings visibility, the convention hotel segment of the lodging industry is more predictable and less susceptible to economic downturns than the general lodging industry.

A number of factors contribute to the success of a convention center hotel, including the following: the availability of sufficient meeting and exhibit space to satisfy large group users; the availability of rooms at competitive prices; access to quality entertainment and food & beverage venues; destination appeal; appropriate regional professional and consumer demographics; adequate loading docks, storage facilities and security; ease of site access via air and ground transportation; and the quality of service provided by hotel staff and event coordinators. The ability to offer as many of these elements within close proximity of each other is important in order to reduce the organizational and logistical planning efforts of the meeting planner. The meeting planner, who acts as an intermediary between the hotel event coordinator and the group scheduling the event, is typically a convention hotel's direct customer. Effective interaction and coordination with meeting planners is key to booking events and generating repeat customers.

*Largest Hotel Exhibit Hall Rankings 2003*

<b>Facility</b>	<b>City</b>	<b>Total Exhibit Space (sq. ft.)</b>	<b>Number of Meeting Rooms</b>	<b>Total Meeting Space (sq. ft.)</b>
Sands Expo	Las Vegas, NV	1,125,600	146	231,477
Mandalay Bay Resort & Casino	Las Vegas, NV	934,731	121	360,924
Walt Disney World Swan and Dolphin	Lake Buena Vista, FL	329,000	84	248,655
Wyndham Anatole Hotel	Dallas, TX	315,000	73	187,000
Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center	Nashville, TN	288,972	85	300,000
Hyatt Regency Chicago's Riverside Center	Chicago, IL	225,000	71	115,000
MGM Grand Hotel & Conference Center	Las Vegas, NV	210,000	60	315,000
The Westin Diplomat Resort & Spa	Hollywood, FL	209,000	39	60,000
Reno Hilton	Reno, NV	190,000	40	110,000
Gaylord Texan Resort & Convention Center*	Grapevine, TX	179,800	69	180,000
Gaylord Palms Resort & Convention Center	Kissimmee, FL	178,500	61	200,000

Source: the Company; *Tradeshow Week Major Exhibit Hall Directory 2003*

\* Opened April 2, 2004.

**Hospitality**

*Gaylord Hotels Strategic Plan* Our goal is to become the nation's premier brand in the meetings and convention sector. To accomplish this, our business strategy is to develop resorts and convention centers in desirable event destinations that are created based in large part on the needs of meeting planners and attendees. Using the slogan All-in-One-Place, our hotels incorporate meeting, convention and exhibition space with a large hotel property so the attendees never have to leave the location during their meetings. This concept of a self-contained destination dedicated primarily to the meetings industry has made Gaylord Opryland in Nashville one of the leading convention hotels in the country. In addition to

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operating Gaylord Opryland, we opened the Gaylord Palms in January 2002 and our new Gaylord Texan on April 2, 2004, and have a contract to purchase land for the development of a hotel in the Washington, D.C. area. We believe that our new convention hotels will enable us to capture additional convention business from groups that currently utilize Gaylord Opryland but must rotate their meetings to other locations due to their attendees' desires to visit different areas. Gaylord also anticipates that our new hotels will capture new group business that currently does not come to the Nashville market and will seek to gain additional business at Gaylord Opryland in Nashville once these groups have experienced a Gaylord hotel in other markets.

*Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center - Nashville, Tennessee* Our flagship, Gaylord Opryland in Nashville, is one of the leading convention destinations in the United States based upon number of rooms, exhibit space and conventions held. Designed with the lavish gardens and magnificent charm of a glorious Southern mansion, the resort is situated on approximately 172 acres in the Opryland complex. Gaylord Opryland is one of the largest hotels in the United States in terms of number of guest rooms. It also serves as a destination resort for vacationers due to its proximity to the Grand Ole Opry, the General Jackson Showboat, the Springhouse Golf Club (Gaylord's 18-hole championship golf course), and other attractions in the Nashville area. Gaylord Opryland has 2,881 guest rooms, four ballrooms with approximately 121,000 square feet, 85 banquet/meeting rooms, and total dedicated exhibition space of approximately 289,000 square feet. Total meeting, exhibit and pre-function space in the hotel is approximately 600,000 square feet.

*Gaylord Palms Resort and Convention Center - Kissimmee, Florida* We opened Gaylord Palms in January 2002. Gaylord Palms has 1,406 signature guest rooms and approximately 360,000 square feet of total meeting and exhibit space. The hotel is situated on a 65-acre site in Osceola County, Florida and is approximately 5 minutes from the main gate of the Walt Disney World® Resort complex. Gaylord Palms has a full-service spa, with 20,000 square feet of dedicated space and 15 treatment rooms. Hotel guests also have golf privileges at the world class Falcon's Fire Golf Club, located a half-mile from the property.

*Gaylord Texan Resort and Convention Center - Grapevine, Texas* We began construction on our new Gaylord Texan in June 2000, and the hotel opened on April 2, 2004. The 1,511 room hotel and convention center is located eight minutes from the Dallas/ Fort Worth International Airport. Like its sister property in Kissimmee, Florida, our Texas hotel features a grand atrium enclosing several acres as well as over 360,000 square feet of pre-function, meeting and exhibition space all under one roof. The property also includes a number of themed restaurants with an additional restaurant located on the point overlooking Lake Grapevine.

*Gaylord Hotels Development Plan.* In January 2000, we announced plans to develop a Gaylord hotel on property to be acquired on the Potomac River in Prince George's County, Maryland (in the Washington, D.C. market). We have entered into a purchase agreement with respect to the site of our proposed development. The purchase agreement is subject to designated closing conditions and provides for liquidated damages, currently in the amount of \$1.0 million, in the event we elect not to purchase the property once the closing conditions have been satisfied. This project is subject to the availability of financing and resolution of certain zoning issues and final approval of Gaylord's board of directors. Gaylord's management is also considering other sites to locate future Gaylord Hotel properties.

*Radisson Hotel at Opryland.* We also own and operate the Radisson Hotel at Opryland, a Radisson franchise hotel, which is located across the street from Gaylord Opryland. The hotel has 303 rooms and approximately 14,000 square feet of meeting space. In March 2000, we entered into a 20-year franchise agreement with Radisson in connection with the operation of this hotel.

### **Opry and Attractions Group**

*The Grand Ole Opry.* The Grand Ole Opry, which celebrated its 75th anniversary in 2000, is one of the most widely known platforms for country music in the world. The Opry features a live country music show with performances every Friday and Saturday night, as well as a Tuesday Night Opry on a seasonal basis. The Opry House, home of the Grand Ole Opry, is located in the Opryland complex. The Grand Ole Opry

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moved to the Opry House in 1974 from its most famous home in the Ryman Auditorium in downtown Nashville.

Each week, the Grand Ole Opry is broadcast live to millions of country lifestyle consumers on terrestrial radio via Westwood One and WSM-AM, worldwide on the Armed Forces Radio Network, on satellite radio via Sirius Satellite Radio and on television via the Great American Country network and CMT-Canada. The broadcast of the Opry is also streamed on the Internet via [www.opry.com](http://www.opry.com) and [www.wsmonline.com](http://www.wsmonline.com). The show has been broadcast since 1925 on WSM-AM, making it the longest running live radio program in the United States. The television broadcast schedule on the Great American Country network will include 52 weekly telecasts airing on Saturday nights at 8 p.m. EST and repeating three times on weekends and twice on Tuesday evenings. The Grand Ole Opry is also re-aired on 205 radio stations across the country through syndication of America's Grand Ole Opry Weekend, which is distributed by Westwood One. In addition to performances by members, the Grand Ole Opry presents performances by many other country music artists.

*Ryman Auditorium.* The Ryman Auditorium, which was built in 1892 and seats approximately 2,300, was recently designated as a National Historic Landmark. The former home of the Grand Ole Opry, the Ryman Auditorium was renovated and re-opened in 1994 for concerts and musical productions. The Grand Ole Opry returns to the Ryman Auditorium periodically, most recently from November 2003 to January 2004. In 2003, the Ryman Auditorium was named Theatre of the Year by Pollstar Concert Industry Awards.

*The General Jackson Showboat.* We operate the General Jackson Showboat, a 300-foot, four-deck paddle wheel showboat, on the Cumberland River, which flows past the Gaylord Opryland complex in Nashville. Its Victorian Theatre can seat 620 people for banquets and 1,000 people for theater-style presentations. The showboat stages Broadway-style shows and other theatrical productions. The General Jackson is one of many sources of entertainment that Gaylord makes available to conventions held at Gaylord Opryland. During the day, it operates cruises, primarily serving tourists visiting the Opryland complex and the Nashville area.

*The Springhouse Golf Club.* Home to a Senior PGA Tour event from 1994 to 2003 and minutes from Gaylord Opryland, the Springhouse Golf Club was designed by former U.S. Open and PGA Champion Larry Nelson. The 40,000 square-foot antebellum-style clubhouse offers meeting space for up to 450 guests.

*The Wildhorse Saloon.* Since 1994, we have owned and operated the Wildhorse Saloon, a country music performance venue on historic Second Avenue in downtown Nashville. The three-story facility includes a dance floor of approximately 2,500 square feet, as well as a restaurant and banquet facility that can accommodate up to 2,000 guests.

*Corporate Magic.* In March 2000, we acquired Corporate Magic, Inc., a company specializing in the production of creative and entertainment events in support of the corporate and meeting marketplace. We believe the event and corporate entertainment planning function of Corporate Magic complements the meeting and convention aspects of our Gaylord Hotels business.

*WSM-AM.* WSM-AM commenced broadcasting in 1925. The involvement of Gaylord's predecessors with country music dates back to the creation of the radio program that became The Grand Ole Opry, which has been broadcast live on WSM-AM since 1925. WSM-AM is broadcast from the Gaylord Opryland complex in Nashville and has a country music format. WSM-AM is one of the nation's clear channel stations, meaning that no other station in a 750-mile radius uses the same frequency for nighttime broadcasts. As a result, the station's signal, transmitted by a 50,000 watt transmitter, can be heard at night in much of the United States and parts of Canada.

On July 21, 2003, we, through our wholly-owned subsidiary Gaylord Investments, Inc., sold the assets primarily used in the operations of WSM-FM and WWTN(FM) to Cumulus Broadcasting, Inc. for \$62.5 million in cash, and Gaylord entered into a joint sales agreement with Cumulus for WSM-AM in exchange for approximately \$2.5 million in cash. Under the joint sales agreement with Cumulus, Cumulus

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will sell all of the commercial advertising on WSM-AM and provide certain sales promotion and billing and collection services relating to WSM-AM, all for a specified fee. The joint sales agreement has a term of five years.

### **ResortQuest**

ResortQuest's rental properties are generally second homes or investment properties owned by individuals who assign to ResortQuest the responsibility of managing, marketing and renting their properties. ResortQuest earns management fees as a percentage of the rental income from each property, but generally has no ownership interest in the properties. In addition to the vacation property management business, ResortQuest offers real estate brokerage services and other rental and property owner services. ResortQuest has also developed a proprietary vacation rental management software, First Resort Software, with over 900 licenses sold to vacation property management companies.

ResortQuest provides value-added services to both vacationers and property owners. For vacationers, ResortQuest offers the value, convenience and features of a condominium or home while providing many of the amenities and services of a hotel, such as centralized billing, check-in and housekeeping services. For property owners, ResortQuest offers a comprehensive package of marketing, management and rental services designed to enhance rental income and profitability while providing services to maintain the property. Property owners also benefit from ResortQuest's QuestPerks program, which offers benefits such as discounts on lodging, air travel and car rentals. To manage guests' expectations, ResortQuest has developed and implemented a five-tier rating system that segments its property portfolio into five categories: Quest Home, Platinum, Gold, Silver and Bronze.

Utilizing its marketing database, ResortQuest markets its properties through cable television ad campaigns and various other media channels. ResortQuest has significant distribution through ResortQuest.com, its proprietary website offering real-time reservations, and its inventory distribution partnerships that include Expedia, Travelocity, Condosaver, retail travel agents, travel wholesalers and others. ResortQuest is constantly enhancing its website to improve the booking experience for leisure travelers. In addition to detailed property descriptions, virtual tours, interior and exterior photos, floor plans and local information, vacationers can search for properties by date, activity, event or location; comparison shop among similar vacation rental units; check for special discounts and promotions; and obtain maps and driving directions.

### **Corporate and Other**

*Bass Pro Shops.* We own a 19.1% interest in Bass Pro, Inc. Bass Pro, Inc. owns and operates Bass Pro Shops, a retailer of premium outdoor sporting goods and fishing tackle. Bass Pro Shops serves its customers through an extensive mail order catalog operation, a retail center in Springfield, Missouri, and additional retail stores at Opry Mills in Nashville and in various other U.S. locations.

*Nashville Predators.* As of December 31, 2003, we own a 10.5% interest in the Nashville Hockey Club Limited Partnership, a limited partnership that owns the Nashville Predators, a National Hockey League franchise that began its sixth season in the fall of 2003. In July of 2002 and 2003 respectively, we exercised the first two of our three put options, each of which gives us the right to require that the limited partnership repurchase one-third of its interest in the partnership. To date, the limited partnership has not completed this repurchase. In August 1999, we entered into a Naming Rights Agreement with the limited partnership whereby we purchased the right to name the Nashville Arena the Gaylord Entertainment Center and to place certain advertising within the arena. Under the agreement, which has a 20-year term, we are required to make annual payments, beginning at \$2,050,000 in the first year and with a 5% escalation each year thereafter, and to purchase a minimum number of tickets to Predators games each year. We contend that we made the payment due under the Naming Rights Agreement by way of set off against obligations owed pursuant to the put option. We currently are in litigation with the Nashville Hockey Club Limited Partnership to resolve the disputes regarding the team ownership and the naming rights for the Gaylord Entertainment Center. See Legal Proceedings below.

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*Viacom.* We hold an investment of approximately 11 million shares of Viacom Class B common stock ( *Viacom stock* ), which was received as the result of the sale of television station KTVT to CBS in 1999 and the subsequent acquisition of CBS by Viacom in 2000. We entered into a secured forward exchange contract related to 10.9 million shares of the Viacom stock in 2000. The secured forward exchange contract protects us against decreases in the fair market value of the Viacom stock, while providing for participation in increases in the fair market value. At December 31, 2003, the fair market value of our investment in the shares of Viacom stock was \$488.3 million, or \$44.38 per share. The secured forward exchange contract protects the Company against decreases in the fair market value of the Viacom stock by way of a put option at a strike price below \$56.05 per share, while providing for participation in increases in the fair market value by way of a call option at a strike price of \$75.30 per share, as of December 31, 2003. Future dividend distributions received from Viacom may result in an adjusted call strike price. For any appreciation above \$75.30 per share, the Company will participate in the appreciation at a rate of 25.93%. See *Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.*

**Implementation of Strategic Direction**

During the second quarter of 2001, we hired a new Chairman of the Board and a new Chief Executive Officer. Once the new senior management team was in place, they devoted a significant portion of 2001 to reviewing the many different businesses they inherited when they joined the Company. After significant review, it was determined that, while we had four business segments for financial reporting purposes (Hospitality, Opry and Attractions Group, Media, consisting of our radio stations and other media assets, and Corporate and Other), the future direction of the Company would be based on two core asset groups, which were aligned as follows: (i) Hospitality Core Asset Group: consisting of the Gaylord Hotels and the various attractions that provide entertainment to guests of the hotels and (ii) Opry Core Asset Group: consisting of the Grand Ole Opry, WSM-AM radio, and the Ryman Auditorium.

As a result, it was determined that Acuff-Rose Music Publishing, Word Entertainment, Music Country/ CMT International, Oklahoma RedHawks, Opry Mills, GET Management, WSM-FM and WWTN (FM) were not core assets of the Company, and as a result each has either been sold or otherwise disposed of by the Company as reflected in the following table:

Business Sold	Date	Net Proceeds From Sale (Cash and Other)
		(in millions)
Interest in Oklahoma RedHawks	November 17, 2003	\$ 6.0
WSM-FM and WWTN(FM)	July 21, 2003	62.5
Acuff-Rose Music Publishing	August 27, 2002	157.0
Opry Mills 33.3% Partnership Interest	June 28, 2002	30.8
Music Country/CMT International	February 25, 2002	3.7
Word Entertainment	January 4, 2002	84.1
Gaylord Production Company, Gaylord Films, Pandora Films, Gaylord Sports Management Group and Gaylord Event Television	March 9, 2001	41.3(1)

(1) Shortly after the closing, the Oklahoma Publishing Company, or OPUBCO, which purchased these assets, asserted that the Company breached certain representations and warranties in the purchase agreement. The Company entered into settlement negotiations pursuant to which the Company paid OPUBCO an aggregate of \$825,000.

Gaylord Digital, Pandora Films, Gaylord Films, Gaylord Sports Management, Gaylord Event Television, Gaylord Production Company, Z Music and the Opryland River Taxicabs, also not core assets of the Company, had previously been sold or otherwise disposed of by the Company. Remaining businesses to be sold include the Company's interests in the Nashville Predators and certain miscellaneous real estate holdings. Management has yet to make a final decision as to whether to sell its minority interest in Bass

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Pro Shops, which it has determined to be a non-core asset. Following the decision to divest certain businesses, we restructured the corporate organization to streamline operations and remove duplicative costs. The Opryland Hospitality management group was combined with the Corporate management group and all Nashville management employees were consolidated into the Company's Wendell Office Building.

### **Employees**

As of December 31, 2003, we had approximately 7,200 full-time and 2,650 part-time and temporary employees. Of these, approximately 3,650 full-time and 1,020 part-time employees were employed in Hospitality; approximately 300 full-time and 560 part-time employees were employed in Opry and Attractions Group; approximately 3,000 full-time and 1,000 part-time employees were employed in ResortQuest; and approximately 250 full-time and 70 part-time employees were employed in Corporate and Other. After the opening of the Gaylord Texan in April of 2004, it is anticipated that an additional 1,450 employees will be employed in Hospitality. The Company believes its relations with its employees are good.

### **Competition**

#### *Hospitality*

The Gaylord Hotel properties compete with numerous other hotels throughout the United States and abroad, particularly the approximately 84 convention hotels located outside of Las Vegas, Nevada that have more than 800 rooms each and a significant amount of meeting and exhibit space. Many of these hotels are operated by companies with greater financial, marketing, and human resources than the Company. We believe that competition among convention hotels is based on, among other things: (i) the hotel's reputation, (ii) the quality of the hotel's facility, (iii) the quality and scope of a hotel's meeting and convention facilities and services, (iv) the desirability of a hotel's location, (v) travel distance to a hotel for meeting attendees, (vi) a hotel facility's accessibility to a recognized airport, (vii) the amount of entertainment and recreational options available in and in the vicinity of the hotel, and (viii) price. Our hotels also compete against municipal convention centers. These include the largest convention centers (e.g., Orlando, Chicago and Atlanta) as well as, for Gaylord Opryland, mid-size convention centers (between 100,000 and 500,000 square feet of meeting space located in second-tier cities).

The hotel business is management and marketing intensive. The Gaylord Hotels compete with other hotels throughout the United States for high quality management and marketing personnel. There can be no assurance that the Company's hotels will be able to attract and retain employees with the requisite managerial and marketing skills.

#### *Opry and Attractions*

The Grand Ole Opry and other attractions businesses compete with all other forms of entertainment and recreational activities. The success of the Opry and Attractions group is dependent upon certain factors beyond our control including economic conditions, the amount of available leisure time, transportation cost, public taste, and weather conditions. Our radio station competes with numerous other types of entertainment businesses, and success is often dependent on taste and fashion, which may fluctuate from time to time. WSM-AM competes for advertising revenues with other radio stations in the Nashville market on the basis of formats, ratings, market share, and the demographic makeup of their audience. Advertising rates of WSM-AM are based principally on the size, market share, and demographic profile of its listening audiences. WSM-AM primarily competes for both audience share and advertising revenues and also competes with the Internet, newspapers, billboards, cable networks, local cable channels, and magazines for advertising revenues. Management competence and experience, station frequency signal coverage, network affiliation, effectiveness of programming format, sales effort, and level of customer service are all important factors in determining competitive position. Under a joint sales agreement with Cumulus, we continue to own and operate WSM-AM, and Cumulus sells all commercial advertising on WSM-AM and provides certain sales promotion and billing and collection services for a specified fee.

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### *ResortQuest*

The vacation rental and property management industry is highly competitive and has low barriers to entry. The industry has two distinct customer groups: vacation property renters and vacation property owners. We believe that the principal competitive factors in attracting vacation property renters are:

market share and visibility;

quality, cost and breadth of services and properties provided; and

long-term customer relationships.

The principal competitive factors in attracting vacation property owners are the ability to generate higher rental income and the ability to provide comprehensive management services at competitive prices. ResortQuest competes for vacationers and property owners primarily with over 4,000 individual vacation rental and property management companies that typically operate in a limited geographic area. Some of our competitors are affiliated with the owners or operators of resorts in which such competitors provide their services. Certain of these smaller competitors may have lower overhead cost structures and may be able to provide their services at lower rates.

ResortQuest also competes for vacationers with large hotel and resort companies. Many of these competitors have greater financial resources than we have, enabling them to finance acquisition and development opportunities, to pay higher prices for the same opportunities or to develop and support their own operations. In addition, many of these companies can offer vacationers services not provided by vacation rental and property management companies, and they may have greater name recognition among vacationers. These companies might be willing to sacrifice profitability to capture a greater portion of the market for vacationers or pay higher prices than we would for the same acquisition opportunities. Consequently, we may encounter significant competition in our efforts to achieve our internal and acquisition growth objectives as well as our operating strategies focused on increasing the profitability of our existing and subsequent acquisitions.

## **Regulation and Legislation**

### *Hospitality*

The Gaylord Hotels and the Radisson Hotel at Opryland are subject to certain federal, state, and local governmental regulations including, without limitation, health, safety, and environmental regulations applicable to hotel and restaurant operations. We believe that we are in substantial compliance with such regulations. In addition, the sale of alcoholic beverages by a hotel requires a license and is subject to regulation by the applicable state and local authorities. The agencies involved have the power to limit, condition, suspend, or revoke any such license, and any disciplinary action or revocation could have an adverse effect upon the results of operations of the Company's Hospitality Group segment.

### *Opry and Attractions Group*

WSM-AM is subject to regulation under the Communications Act of 1934, as amended (the Communications Act). Under the Communications Act, the Federal Communications Commission, or FCC, among other things, assigns frequency bands for broadcasting; determines the frequencies, location, and signal strength of stations; issues, renews, revokes, and modifies station licenses; regulates equipment used by stations; and adopts and implements regulations and policies that directly or indirectly affect the ownership, operation, and other practices of broadcasting stations.

Licenses issued for radio stations have terms of eight years. Radio broadcast licenses are renewable upon application to the FCC and in the past have been renewed except in rare cases. Competing applications will not be accepted at the time of license renewal, and will not be entertained at all unless the FCC first concludes that renewal of the license would not serve the public interest. A station will be entitled to renewal in the absence of serious violations of the Communications Act or the FCC regulations or other

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violations which constitute a pattern of abuse. The Company is not aware of any reason why its radio station license should not be renewed.

The foregoing is only a brief summary of certain provisions of the Communications Act and FCC regulations. The Communications Act and FCC regulations may be amended from time to time, and the Company cannot predict whether any such legislation will be enacted or whether new or amended FCC regulations will be adopted, or the effect on the Company of any such changes.

### *ResortQuest*

The operations of ResortQuest are subject to various federal, state, local and foreign laws and regulations, including licensing requirements applicable to real estate operations and the sale of alcoholic beverages, laws and regulations relating to consumer protection and local ordinances. Many states have adopted specific laws and regulations which regulate our activities, such as:

anti-fraud laws;

real estate and travel services provider license requirements;

environmental laws;

telemarketing and consumer privacy laws; and

the Fair Housing Act.

The agencies involved in enforcing these laws and regulations have the power to limit, condition, suspend, or revoke any such license or activity by ResortQuest, and any disciplinary action or revocation affecting a significant portion of the operations of ResortQuest could have an adverse effect upon the results of operations of ResortQuest.

## **Additional Information**

Our web site address is [www.gaylordentertainment.com](http://www.gaylordentertainment.com). Please note that our web site address is provided as an inactive textual reference only. We make available free of charge through our web site the annual report on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K, and all amendments to those reports as soon as reasonably practicable after such material is electronically filed with or furnished to the SEC. The information provided on our web site is not part of this report, and is therefore not incorporated by reference unless such information is otherwise specifically referenced elsewhere in this report.

## **Risk Factors**

You should carefully consider the following specific risk factors as well as the other information contained or incorporated by reference in this annual report on Form 10-K as these are important factors, among others, that could cause our actual results to differ from our expected or historical results. It is not possible to predict or identify all such factors. Consequently, you should not consider any such list to be a complete statement of all our potential risks or uncertainties. Some statements in this Business section and elsewhere in this annual report on Form 10-K are forward-looking statements.

### ***The successful implementation of our business strategy depends on our ability to generate cash flows from our existing operations and our new Texas hotel and other factors.***

We have refocused our business strategy on the development of additional resort and convention center hotels in selected locations in the United States; on our attractions properties, including the Grand Ole Opry, which are focused primarily on the country music genre; and our recently acquired ResortQuest vacation rental and property management business. The success of our future operating results depends on our ability to implement our business strategy by successfully operating Gaylord Opryland and the Gaylord Palms and our Gaylord Texan and by further exploiting our attractions assets and our vacation rental

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business. Our ability to do this depends upon many factors, some of which are beyond our control. These include:

our ability to achieve positive cash flow from operations of the new Gaylord Texan within the anticipated ramp-up period;

our ability to generate cash flows from existing operations;

our ability to hire and retain hotel management, catering and convention-related staff for our hotels and staff for our vacation rental offices;

our ability to capitalize on the strong brand recognition of certain of our Opry and Attractions assets; and

the continued popularity and demand for country music.

If we are unable to successfully implement the business strategies described above, our cash flows and net income may be reduced.

***Our hotel and convention business and our vacation rental and property management business are subject to significant market risks.***

Our ability to continue to successfully operate the Gaylord Opryland, the Gaylord Palms, and the new Gaylord Texan, and to operate our ResortQuest vacation rental business, is subject to factors beyond our control which could reduce the revenue and operating income of these properties. These factors include:

the desirability and perceived attractiveness of the Nashville, Tennessee area; the Orlando, Florida area; and the Dallas, Texas area as tourist and convention destinations;

adverse changes in the national economy and in the levels of tourism and convention business that would affect our hotels or vacation rental properties we manage;

the hotel and convention business is highly competitive, and Gaylord Palms and our new Gaylord Texan hotel are operating in extremely competitive markets for convention and tourism business;

our group convention business is subject to reduced levels of demand during the year-end holiday periods, and we may not be able to attract sufficient general tourism guests to offset this seasonality; and

the vacation rental and property management business is highly competitive and has low barriers to entry, and we compete primarily with local vacation rental and property management companies located in its markets, some of whom are affiliated with the owners or operators of resorts where these competitors provide their services or which may have lower cost structures and may provide their services at lower rates.

***Our recent acquisition of ResortQuest International, Inc., which we completed on November 20, 2003, involves substantial risks.***

The ResortQuest acquisition involves the integration of two companies that previously have operated independently, which is a complex, costly and time-consuming process. The process of integrating operations could cause an interruption of, or loss of momentum in, the activities of the combined company's business and the loss of key personnel. The diversion of management's attention and any delays or difficulties encountered in connection with the ResortQuest acquisition and the integration of the two companies' operations could harm the business, results of operations, financial condition or prospects of the combined company. In addition, we may be unable to achieve the anticipated cost savings from the ResortQuest acquisition for many reasons. Gaylord and ResortQuest have incurred substantial expenses, such as legal, accounting and financial advisor fees, in connection with the acquisition.

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***Unanticipated costs of hotels we open in new markets may reduce our operating income.***

As part of our growth plans, we may open or acquire new hotels in geographic areas in which we have little or no operating experience and in which potential customers may not be familiar with our business. As a result, we may have to incur costs relating to the opening, operation and promotion of those new hotel properties that are substantially greater than those incurred in other areas. Even though we may incur substantial additional costs with these new hotel properties, they may attract fewer customers than our existing hotels. As a result, the results of operations at new hotel properties may be inferior to those of our existing hotels. The new hotels may even operate at a loss. Even if we are able to attract enough customers to our new hotel properties to operate them at a profit, it is possible that those customers could simply be moving future meetings or conventions from our existing hotel properties to our new hotel properties. Thus, the opening of a new hotel property could reduce the revenue of our existing hotel properties.

***Our hotel development is subject to timing, budgeting and other risks.***

We intend to develop additional hotel properties as suitable opportunities arise, taking into consideration the general economic climate. New project development has a number of risks, including risks associated with:

construction delays or cost overruns that may increase project costs;

construction defects or noncompliance with construction specifications;

receipt of zoning, occupancy and other required governmental permits and authorizations;

development costs incurred for projects that are not pursued to completion;

so-called acts of God such as earthquakes, hurricanes, floods or fires that could delay the development of a project;

the availability and cost of capital; and

governmental restrictions on the nature or size of a project or timing of completion.

Our development projects may not be completed on time or within budget.

***Our real estate investments are subject to numerous risks.***

Because we own hotels and attractions properties, we are subject to the risks that generally relate to investments in real property. The investment returns available from equity investments in real estate depend in large part on the amount of income earned and capital appreciation generated by the related properties, as well as the expenses incurred. In addition, a variety of other factors affect income from properties and real estate values, including governmental regulations, insurance, zoning, tax and eminent domain laws, interest rate levels and the availability of financing. For example, new or existing real estate zoning or tax laws can make it more expensive and/or time-consuming to develop real property or expand, modify or renovate properties. When interest rates increase, the cost of acquiring, developing, expanding or renovating real property increases and real property values may decrease as the number of potential buyers decreases. Similarly, as financing becomes less available, it becomes more difficult both to acquire and to sell real property. Finally, governments can, under eminent domain laws, take real property. Sometimes this taking is for less compensation than the owner believes the property is worth. Any of these factors could have a material adverse impact on our results of operations or financial condition. In addition, equity real estate investments, such as the investments we hold and any additional properties that we may acquire, are relatively difficult to sell quickly. If our properties do not generate revenue sufficient to meet operating expenses, including debt service and capital expenditures, our operating income will be reduced.

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***Our hotel and vacation rental properties are concentrated geographically and our revenues and operating income could be reduced by adverse conditions specific to our property locations.***

Our existing hotel properties are located predominately in the southeastern United States. As a result, our business and our financial operating results may be materially affected by adverse economic, weather or business conditions in the Southeast. In addition, our ResortQuest vacation rental business manages properties that are significantly concentrated in beach and island resorts located in Florida and Hawaii and mountain resorts located in Colorado. Adverse events or conditions which affect these areas in particular, such as economic recession, changes in regional travel patterns, extreme weather conditions or natural disasters, may have an adverse impact on our ResortQuest operations.

***Hospitality companies have been the target of class actions and other lawsuits alleging violations of federal and state law.***

Our operating income may be reduced by legal or governmental proceedings brought by or on behalf of our employees or customers. In recent years, a number of hospitality companies have been subject to lawsuits, including class action lawsuits, alleging violations of federal and state law regarding workplace and employment matters, discrimination and similar matters. A number of these lawsuits have resulted in the payment of substantial damages by the defendants. Similar lawsuits have been instituted against us from time to time, and we cannot assure you that we will not incur substantial damages and expenses resulting from lawsuits of this type, which could have a material adverse effect on our business.

***Our properties are subject to environmental regulations that could impose significant financial liability on us.***

Environmental laws, ordinances and regulations of various federal, state, local and foreign governments regulate certain of our properties and could make us liable for the costs of removing or cleaning up hazardous or toxic substances on, under or in the properties we currently own or operate or those we previously owned or operated. Those laws could impose liability without regard to whether we knew of, or were responsible for, the presence of hazardous or toxic substances. The presence of hazardous or toxic substances, or the failure to properly clean up such substances when present, could jeopardize our ability to develop, use, sell or rent the real property or to borrow using the real property as collateral. If we arrange for the disposal or treatment of hazardous or toxic wastes, we could be liable for the costs of removing or cleaning up wastes at the disposal or treatment facility, even if we never owned or operated that facility. Other laws, ordinances and regulations could require us to manage, abate or remove lead- or asbestos-containing materials. Similarly, the operation and closure of storage tanks are often regulated by federal, state, local and foreign laws. Finally, certain laws, ordinances and regulations, particularly those governing the management or preservation of wetlands, coastal zones and threatened or endangered species, could limit our ability to develop, use, sell or rent our real property.

***Any failure to attract, retain and integrate senior and managerial level executives could negatively impact our operations and development of our properties.***

During 2001, we appointed a new Chairman and a new Chief Executive Officer and had numerous changes in senior management. Our future performance depends upon our ability to attract qualified senior executives and to retain their services. Our future financial results also will depend upon our ability to attract and retain highly skilled managerial and marketing personnel in our different areas of operation. Competition for qualified personnel is intense and is likely to increase in the future. We compete for qualified personnel against companies with significantly greater financial resources than ours.

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***We have certain minority equity interests over which we have no significant control, to or for which we may owe significant obligations and for which there is no market, and these investments may not be profitable.***

We have certain minority investments which are not liquid and over which we have no rights, or ability, to exercise the direction or control of the respective enterprises. These include our equity interests in Viacom, Bass Pro and the Nashville Predators. When we make these investments, we sometimes extend guarantees related to such investments. For example, in connection with our investment in the Nashville Predators, we agreed to guarantee, severally and jointly with other investors, up to \$15.0 million of specified obligations. The ultimate value of each of these investments will be dependent upon the efforts of others over an extended period of time. The nature of our interests and the absence of a market for those interests restricts our ability to dispose of them. Our lack of control over the management of these businesses and the lack of a market to sell our interest in these businesses may cause us to recognize a loss on our investment in these businesses. In addition, we may enter into joint venture arrangements. These arrangements are subject to uncertainties and risks, including those related to conflicting joint venture partner interests and to our joint venture partners failing to meet their financial or other obligations.

***We are subject to risks relating to acts of God, terrorist activity and war.***

Our operating income may be reduced by acts of God, such as natural disasters or acts of terror, in locations where we own and/or operate significant properties and areas of the world from which we draw a large number of customers. Some types of losses, such as from earthquake, hurricane, terrorism and environmental hazards, may be either uninsurable or too expensive to justify insuring against. Should an uninsured loss or a loss in excess of insured limits occur, we could lose all or a portion of the capital we have invested in a hotel, as well as the anticipated future revenue from the hotel. In that event, we might nevertheless remain obligated for any mortgage debt or other financial obligations related to the property. Similarly, wars (including the potential for war), terrorist activity (including threats of terrorist activity), political unrest and other forms of civil strife as well as geopolitical uncertainty have caused in the past, and may cause in the future, our results to differ materially from anticipated results.

***We face risks related to an SEC investigation.***

In March 2003, we restated our historical financial statements for 2000, 2001 and the first nine months of 2002 to reflect certain non-cash changes, which resulted primarily from a change to our income tax accrual and a change in the manner in which we accounted for our investment in the Nashville Predators. We have been advised by the SEC staff that it is conducting a formal investigation into the financial results and transactions that were the subject of our restatement. The SEC staff is reviewing documents provided by us and our independent accountants and has taken or will take testimony from former and current employees of the Company. We have been cooperating with the SEC staff and intend to continue to do so. Nevertheless, if the SEC makes a determination adverse to us, we may face sanctions, including, but not limited to, monetary penalties and injunctive relief.

***The hospitality industry and the vacation and property management industry are heavily regulated, including with respect to food and beverage sales, real estate brokerage licensing, employee relations and construction concerns, and compliance with these regulations could increase our costs and reduce our revenues and profits.***

Our hotel operations are subject to numerous laws, including those relating to the preparation and sale of food and beverages, liquor service and health and safety of premises. Our vacation rental operations are also subject to licensing requirements applicable to real estate operations, laws and regulations relating to consumer protection and local ordinances. We are also subject to laws regulating our relationship with our employees in areas such as hiring and firing, minimum wage and maximum working hours, overtime and working conditions. The success of expanding our hotel operations also depends upon our obtaining necessary building permits and zoning variances from local authorities. Compliance with these laws is time intensive and costly and may reduce our revenues and operating income.

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***If vacation rental property owners do not renew a significant number of property management contracts, revenues and operating income from our ResortQuest vacation rental business would be reduced.***

Through our ResortQuest vacation rental business, we provide rental and property management services to property owners pursuant to management contracts, which generally have one-year terms. The majority of such contracts contain automatic renewal provisions but also allow property owners to terminate the contract at any time. If property owners do not renew a significant number of management contracts or if we are unable to attract additional property owners, revenues and operating income for our ResortQuest business may be reduced. In addition, although most of its contracts are exclusive, industry standards in certain geographic markets dictate that rental services be provided on a non-exclusive basis.

***Our substantial debt could reduce our cash flow and limit our future business activities.***

We currently have a significant amount of debt. As of December 31, 2003, we had \$548.8 million of total debt, exclusive of our \$613.1 million secured forward exchange contract, and stockholders' equity of \$904.5 million. Our substantial amount of debt could have important consequences to you. For example, it could:

make it more difficult for us to satisfy our obligations under our existing indebtedness;

increase our vulnerability to general adverse economic and industry conditions;

require us to dedicate a substantial portion of our cash flow from operations to make interest and principal payments on our debt, thereby limiting the availability of our cash flow to fund future capital expenditures, working capital and other general corporate requirements;

limit our flexibility in planning for, or reacting to, changes in our business and the hospitality industry, which may place us at a competitive disadvantage compared with competitors that are less leveraged; and

limit our ability to borrow additional funds, even when necessary to maintain adequate liquidity.

In addition, the terms of our Nashville hotel loan, our new revolving credit facility and the indenture governing our 8% senior notes allow us to incur substantial amounts of additional debt subject to certain limitations. Any such additional debt could increase the risks associated with our substantial leverage. Our substantial leverage is evidenced by our earnings being insufficient to cover fixed charges by \$71.8 million, \$37.8 million and \$167.3 million for the years ended December 31, 2003, 2001 and 2000.

***To service our debt and pay other obligations, we will require a significant amount of cash, which may not be available to us.***

Our ability to make payments on, or repay or refinance, our debt, including any future debt we may incur, and to fund planned capital expenditures will depend largely upon our future operating performance and our ability to generate cash from operations. Our future performance, to a certain extent, is subject to general economic, financial, competitive, legislative, regulatory and other factors that are beyond our control. In addition, our ability to borrow funds in the future to make payments on our debt will depend on the satisfaction of the covenants and certain financial ratios in our Nashville hotel loan and our new revolving credit facility and our other debt agreements, including the indenture governing our 8% senior notes due 2013 and other agreements we may enter into in the future. Our business may not generate sufficient cash flow from operations or we may not have future borrowings available to us under our new revolving credit facility or from other sources in an amount sufficient to enable us to pay our debt, or to fund our other liquidity needs.

In addition, we will be required to refinance our Nashville hotel loan (\$199.2 million outstanding as of December 31, 2003), which matures in 2004, subject to extension to 2006, and our new revolving credit facility which matures in 2006. At the expiration of the secured forward exchange contract relating to shares of Viacom stock we own, we will be required to incur additional debt or use any cash on hand to pay the estimated \$156.0 million deferred tax payable at that time. We cannot assure you that we will be able to refinance any of our debt, including our Nashville hotel loan and our new revolving credit facility

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or finance the deferred taxes on our Viacom stock on commercially reasonable terms or at all. If we were unable to make payments or refinance our debt or obtain new financing under these circumstances, we would have to consider other options, such as:

sales of assets;

sales of equity; and/or

negotiations with our lenders to restructure the applicable debt.

Our credit agreements, the indenture governing our 8% senior notes and the indenture governing any future debt securities we issue may restrict, or market or business conditions may limit, our ability to do some of these things.

In addition, our Nashville hotel loan contains a cash management restriction that is triggered if the debt service coverage ratio for cash flow from our Nashville hotel operations falls below 1.25:1. If the cash management restriction is triggered, our liquidity would be affected, as all excess cash from the Nashville hotel property, defined as cash after payment of principal and interest, certain reserves, and cash sufficient to cover operating expenses, would be applied to repay principal on the Nashville hotel loan. In such event, we would not have access to this cash amount to use for other purposes, such as payment of interest on the notes. In addition, our Nashville hotel loan requires that the debt service coverage ratio be at a minimum 1.49:1 to allow us to exercise our option to extend the maturity of the loan to March 2006. There can be no assurance that we will meet that ratio at December 31, 2004 to enable us to exercise the second extension of the maturity of the loan to March 2006.

***The agreements governing our debt, including our 8% senior notes due 2013 and our senior secured loans, contain various covenants that limit our discretion in the operation of our business and could lead to acceleration of debt.***

Our existing agreements, including our new revolving credit facility, our Nashville hotel loan and our 8% senior notes, impose, and future financing agreements are likely to impose, operating and financial restrictions on our activities. These restrictions require us to comply with or maintain certain financial tests and ratios, including minimum consolidated net worth, minimum interest coverage ratio and maximum leverage ratios, and limit or prohibit our ability to, among other things:

incur additional debt and issue preferred stock;

create liens;

redeem and/or prepay certain debt;

pay dividends on our stock to our stockholders or repurchase our stock;

make certain investments;

enter new lines of business;

engage in consolidations, mergers and acquisitions;

make certain capital expenditures; and

require our subsidiaries to pay dividends and make other distributions to us.

These restrictions on our ability to operate our business could seriously harm our business by, among other things, limiting our ability to take advantage of financing, merger and acquisition and other corporate opportunities.

Various risks, uncertainties and events beyond our control could affect our ability to comply with these covenants and maintain these financial tests and ratios. Failure to comply with any of the covenants in our existing or future financing agreements could result in a default under those agreements and under other agreements containing cross-default provisions. A default would permit lenders to accelerate the maturity

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for the debt under these agreements and to foreclose upon any collateral securing the debt. Under these circumstances, we might not have sufficient funds or other resources to satisfy all of our obligations. In addition, the limitations imposed by financing agreements on our ability to incur additional debt and to take other actions might significantly impair our ability to obtain other financing.

***Fluctuations in our operating results and other factors may result in decreases in our stock price.***

In recent periods, the market price for our common stock has fluctuated substantially. From time to time, there may be significant volatility in the market price of our common stock. We believe that the current market price of our common stock reflects expectations that we will be able to continue to operate our existing hotels profitably and to develop new hotel properties profitably. If we are unable to accomplish this, investors could sell shares of our common stock at or after the time that it becomes apparent that the expectations of the market may not be realized, resulting in a decrease in the market price of our common stock. In addition to our operating results, the operating results of other hospitality companies, changes in financial estimates or recommendations by analysts, adverse weather conditions, increased construction costs, changes in general conditions in the economy or the financial markets or other developments affecting us or our industry, such as the recent terrorist attacks, could cause the market price of our common stock to fluctuate substantially. In recent years, the stock market has experienced extreme price and volume fluctuations. This volatility has had a significant effect on the market prices of securities issued by many companies for reasons unrelated to their operating performance.

**Executive Officers of the Registrant**

The following table sets forth certain information regarding the executive officers of the Company as of December 31, 2003. All officers serve at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

Name	Age	Position
Michael D. Rose	62	Chairman of the Board of Directors
Colin V. Reed	56	President and Chief Executive Officer
David C. Kloepfel	34	Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer
Jay D. Sevigny	44	Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, Gaylord Hotels
John P. Caparella	46	Senior Vice President and General Manager, Gaylord Palms Resort and Convention Center
James S. Olin	44	Executive Vice President and Chief Executive Officer, ResortQuest
Carter R. Todd	46	Senior Vice President, Secretary and General Counsel
Rod Connor	51	Senior Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer

The following is additional information with respect to the above-named executive officers.

*Michael D. Rose* has served as Chairman of the Board of the Company since April 2001. Prior to that time, he was a private investor, and prior to December 1997, he was Chairman of the Board of Promus Hotel Corporation, Memphis, Tennessee, a franchiser and operator of hotel brands. Prior to January 1997, Mr. Rose was also Chairman of the Board of Harrah's Entertainment, Inc., an owner and manager of casinos in the United States. Mr. Rose is also a director of five other public companies, Darden Restaurants, Inc., an owner and operator of casual dining restaurants, FelCor Lodging Trust, Inc., a hotel real estate investment trust, First Tennessee National Corporation, a bank holding company, General Mills, Inc., a producer of packaged consumer foods, and Stein Mart, Inc. an owner and operator of retail apparel stores.

*Colin V. Reed* was elected President and Chief Executive Officer and a director of the Company in April 2001. Prior to that time, he was a member of the three-executive Office of the President of Harrah's Entertainment since May 1999 and the Chief Financial Officer of Harrah's Entertainment since April

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1997. Mr. Reed was a director of Harrah's Entertainment from 1998 to May 2001. He was Executive Vice President of Harrah's Entertainment from September 1995 to May 1999 and has served in several other management positions with Harrah's Entertainment and its predecessor, Holiday Corp., since 1977. As part of his duties at Harrah's Entertainment, Mr. Reed served as a director and Chairman of the Board of JCC Holding Company, an entity in which Harrah's Entertainment held a minority interest. On January 4, 2001, JCC Holding Company filed a petition for reorganization relief under Chapter 11 of the United States Bankruptcy Code. Mr. Reed is a director of Rite Aid Corporation, an owner and operator of retail drugstores.

*David C. Kloeppe* is the Company's Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer. Prior to joining the Company in September of 2001, Mr. Kloeppe worked in the Mergers and Acquisitions Department at Deutsche Bank in New York, where he was responsible for that department's activities in the lodging, leisure and real estate sectors. Mr. Kloeppe earned an MBA from Vanderbilt University's Owen Graduate School of Management, graduating with highest honors. He received his bachelor of science degree from Vanderbilt University, majoring in economics.

*Jay D. Sevigny* is Executive Vice President of the Company and Chief Operating Officer, Gaylord Hotels, positions he has held since January 2004. From February 2002 until December 2003, Mr. Sevigny served as President of the Company's Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center in Nashville. Mr. Sevigny was hired in October 2001 as the Senior Vice President in charge of the Company's Marketing and Attractions. Prior to joining the Company, Mr. Sevigny worked in different capacities for Harrah's Entertainment, most recently as Division President Hotel/Casino in Las Vegas during 2000 and 2001, and as President and Chief Operating Officer of Harrah's New Orleans casino operations from 1998 to 2000. From 1997 to 1998, Mr. Sevigny was President of Midwest Operations for Station Casino in Kansas City, Missouri. Mr. Sevigny has a finance degree from the University of Nevada and is enrolled in the Executive MBA Program at Vanderbilt University's Owen Graduate School of Management.

*John P. Caparella* is a Senior Vice President of the Company and the General Manager of Gaylord Palms Resort and Convention Center, positions he has held since joining the Company in November 2000. Prior to such time, Mr. Caparella served as Executive Vice President, Planning, Development and Administration and President of PlanetHollywood.com for Planet Hollywood International, Inc., a creator and developer of consumer brands relating to movies, sports and other entertainment-based themes, in Orlando, Florida since September 1997. Before joining Planet Hollywood, Mr. Caparella was with ITT Sheraton, an owner and operator of hotel brands, for 17 years in convention, resort, business and 4-star luxury properties, as well as ITT Sheraton's corporate headquarters. Mr. Caparella is a graduate of the State University of New York at Delhi.

*James S. Olin* has served as Executive Vice President of the Company and Chief Executive Officer of the Company's ResortQuest subsidiary since the Company's acquisition of ResortQuest International, Inc. in November 2003. Prior to such time, Mr. Olin was Chief Executive Officer and President of ResortQuest, positions he had held since October 2002 and April 2002, respectively. Mr. Olin held the position of Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of ResortQuest from January 2000 until April 2002. Mr. Olin was formerly President of Abbott Resorts, Inc., one of the predecessor entities of ResortQuest, from 1992 to January 2000. Mr. Olin's employment with the Company ended on March 10, 2004.

*Carter R. Todd* joined Gaylord Entertainment Company in July 2001 as the Company's Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary. Prior to that time, he was a Corporate and Securities partner in the Nashville office of the regional law firm Baker, Donelson, Bearman & Caldwell. Mr. Todd has practiced law in Nashville since 1982 and is a graduate of Vanderbilt University School of Law and Davidson College.

*Rod Connor* is Senior Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer of the Company, a position he has held since September 2003. From January 2002 to September 2003, he was Senior Vice President of Risk Management and Administration. From December 1997 to January 2002, Mr. Connor was Senior Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer. From February 1995 to December 1997, he was the Vice

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President and Corporate Controller of the Company. Mr. Connor has been an employee of the Company for over 30 years.

### **Item 2. Properties**

We own our executive offices and headquarters located at One Gaylord Drive, Nashville, Tennessee, which consists of a four-story office building comprising approximately 80,000 square feet. We own the land and improvements that comprise the Opryland complex in Nashville, Tennessee, which are composed of the properties described below. We also own the former offices and television studios of TNN and CMT, all of which are located within the Opryland complex and contain approximately 84,000 square feet of space. These facilities were previously leased to CBS through September 30, 2002. Gaylord believes that its present facilities for each of its business segments are generally well maintained.

#### **Hospitality**

The Opryland complex includes the site of Gaylord Opryland (approximately 172 acres). In connection with our Nashville hotel loan, a first mortgage lien was granted on Gaylord Opryland, including the site on which it stands. Gaylord has leased a 65-acre tract in Osceola County, Florida, on which Gaylord Palms is located pursuant to a 75 year ground lease with a 24 year renewal option. Gaylord has granted a leasehold mortgage to the lender under its revolving credit facility. Gaylord has acquired approximately 100 acres in Grapevine, Texas, through ownership (approximately 75 acres) and ground lease (approximately 25 acres), on which the Gaylord Texan in Grapevine, Texas is being constructed.

#### **Opry and Attractions**

We own the General Jackson Showboat's docking facility and the Opry House, both of which are located within the Opryland complex. We also own the Springhouse Golf Club, an 18-hole golf course situated on over 200 acres and the 6.7-acre site of the Radisson Hotel at Opryland, both of which are located near the Opryland complex. In downtown Nashville, we own the Ryman Auditorium and the Wildhorse Saloon dance hall and production facility. We own WSM Radio's offices and studios, which are also located within the Opryland complex.

#### **ResortQuest**

ResortQuest has approximately 200 properties in over 50 locations in 17 states in the U.S. and one province in Canada. These properties consist principally of offices and maintenance, laundry and storage facilities. We own approximately 40 of these facilities and lease approximately 160 properties. We consider all of these owned and leased properties to be suitable and adequate for the conduct of our business.

### **Item 3. Legal Proceedings**

We are a party to the lawsuit styled *Nashville Hockey Club Limited Partnership v. Gaylord Entertainment Company*, Case No. 03-1474, now pending in the Chancery Court for Davidson County, Tennessee. In its complaint for breach of contract, Nashville Hockey Club Limited Partnership alleged that we failed to honor our payment obligation under a Naming Rights Agreement for the multi-purpose arena in Nashville known as the Gaylord Entertainment Center. Specifically, Plaintiff alleged that we failed to make a semi-annual payment to Plaintiff in the amount of \$1,186,565.50 when due on January 1, 2003 and in the amount of \$1,245,894 when due on July 1, 2003. We contended that we effectively fulfilled our obligations due under the Naming Rights Agreement by way of set off against obligations owed by Plaintiff to CCK Holdings, LLC ( CCK ) under a put option CCK exercised pursuant to the Partnership Agreement between CCK and Plaintiff. CCK has assigned the proceeds of its put option to us. We vigorously contested this case by filing an answer and counterclaim denying any liability to Plaintiff, specifically alleging that all payments due to Plaintiff under the Naming Rights Agreement had been paid in full and asserting a counterclaim for amounts owing on the put option under the Partnership Agreement. Plaintiff filed a motion for summary judgment which was argued on February 6, 2004, and on March 10, 2004 the

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Chancellor granted the Plaintiff's motion, requiring us to make payments (including \$4.1 million payable to date) under the Naming Rights Agreement in cash and finding that conditions to the satisfaction of our put option have not been met. Gaylord intends to appeal this decision and continue to vigorously assert its rights in this litigation. Because we continued to recognize the expense under the Naming Rights Agreement, payment of the accrued amounts under the Naming Rights Agreement will not affect our results of operation.

One of our ResortQuest subsidiaries is a party to the lawsuit styled *Awbrey et al. v. Abbott Realty Services, Inc.*, Case No. 02-CA-1203, now pending in the Okaloosa County, Florida Circuit Court. The plaintiffs are owners of 16 condominium units at the Jade East condominium development in Destin, Florida, and they have filed suit alleging, among other things, nondisclosure and misrepresentation by our real estate sales agents in the sale of Plaintiffs' units. Plaintiffs seek unspecified damages and a jury trial. We have filed pleadings denying the Plaintiffs' allegations and asserting several affirmative defenses, among them that the claims of the Plaintiffs have been released in connection with the April 2001 settlement of a 1998 lawsuit filed by the Jade East condominium owners association against the original condominium's developer. We have also filed a motion for summary judgment which has been set for hearing in May 2004. At this stage it is difficult to ascertain the likelihood of an unfavorable outcome. The damages sought by each Plaintiff are in excess of \$200,000, making the total exposure to the sixteen unit owners in excess of \$3.2 million. Those damages are disputed by the Company as overstated and unproven, and we intend to vigorously defend this case.

We maintain various insurance policies, including general liability and property damage insurance, as well as workers' compensation, business interruption, and other policies, which we believe provide adequate coverage for the risks associated with our range of operations. Various of our subsidiaries are involved in lawsuits incidental to the ordinary course of their businesses, such as personal injury actions by guests and employees and complaints alleging employee discrimination. We believe that we are adequately insured against these claims by our existing insurance policies and that the outcome of any pending claims or proceedings will not have a material adverse effect on our financial position or results of operations.

We may have potential liability under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as amended ( CERCLA or Superfund ), for response costs at two Superfund sites. The liability relates to properties formerly owned by our predecessor. In 1991, OPUBCO assumed these liabilities and agreed to indemnify us for any losses, damages, or other liabilities incurred by it in connection with these matters. We believe that OPUBCO's indemnification will fully cover our Superfund liabilities, if any, and that, based on our current estimates of these liabilities, OPUBCO has sufficient financial resources to fulfill its indemnification obligations.

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

The Company held a Special Meeting of Stockholders on November 18, 2003 (the Special Meeting ) to: (i) approve the issuance of shares of common stock under the Agreement and Plan of Merger dated as of August 4, 2003, by and among the Company, GET Merger Sub, Inc. and ResortQuest ( Proposal 1 ), and (ii) adjourn the Special Meeting to a later date, if necessary, to solicit additional proxies if there were not sufficient votes in favor of Proposal 1 ( Proposal 2 ). The following table sets forth the number of votes cast for, against, and withheld/abstained with respect to each of the proposals, both of which were approved at the Special Meeting:

Number of votes cast for Proposal 1:	23,024,828
Number of votes cast against Proposal 1:	438,628
Number of abstentions:	4,913,371
Number of votes cast for Proposal 2:	19,498,922
Number of votes cast against Proposal 2:	3,878,810
Number of abstentions:	4,999,114

**Table of Contents****PART II****Item 5. Market for Registrant's Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities**

The Company's common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "GET". The following table sets forth, for the calendar quarters indicated, the high and low sales prices for our common stock as reported by the NYSE for the last two years:

	2003		2002	
	High	Low	High	Low
First Quarter	\$21.02	\$16.55	\$26.98	\$22.10
Second Quarter	24.44	17.10	29.26	21.76
Third Quarter	26.24	17.70	23.05	17.90
Fourth Quarter	30.60	24.55	21.35	16.16

There were approximately 2,302 record holders of our common stock as of March 1, 2004.

We have not paid dividends on our common stock during the 2002 or 2003 fiscal years. We do not presently intend to declare any cash dividends. We intend to retain our earnings to fund the operation of our business, to service and repay our debt, and to make strategic investments as they arise. Moreover, the terms of our debt contain covenants that restrict our ability to pay dividends. Our Board of Directors may reevaluate this dividend policy in the future in light of our results of operations, financial condition, cash requirements, future prospects, loan agreements and other factors deemed relevant by our Board.

The following table includes information about our stock option plans as of December 31, 2003:

	Number of securities to be issued upon exercise of outstanding options, warrants and rights	Weighted average exercise price of outstanding options, warrants and rights	Number of securities remaining available for future issuance under equity compensation plans
(in thousands, except per share data)			
Equity compensation plans approved by security holders	3,743,617	\$24.88	2,113,252
Equity compensation plans not approved by security holders(1)			

- (1) In connection with our acquisition of ResortQuest on November 20, 2003, we assumed the obligations of ResortQuest under its Amended and Restated 1998 Long-Term Incentive Plan. As of December 31, 2003, there were 416,292 shares of our common stock reserved for issuance upon the exercise of options previously granted under this stock option plan. No additional options to purchase our common stock will be issued under this plan.

**Table of Contents****Item 6. Selected Financial Data****GAYLORD ENTERTAINMENT COMPANY AND SUBSIDIARIES  
SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA**

The following selected historical financial information of Gaylord and its subsidiaries as of December 31, 2003, 2002 and 2001 and for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2003 was derived from our audited consolidated financial statements. The selected financial information as of December 31, 2000 and 1999 and for each of the two years in the period ended December 31, 2000 was derived from previously issued audited consolidated financial statements adjusted for unaudited revisions for discontinued operations. The information in the following table should be read in conjunction with our consolidated financial statements and related notes included herein.

	Years Ended December 31,				
	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999
<b>INCOME STATEMENT DATA:</b>					
Revenues:					
Hospitality	\$ 369,263	\$ 339,380	\$ 228,712	\$ 237,260	\$ 239,248
Opry and Attractions	61,433	65,600	67,064	69,283	97,839
ResortQuest	17,920				
Corporate and Other	184	272	290	64	5,318
	<u>448,800</u>	<u>405,252</u>	<u>296,066</u>	<u>306,607</u>	<u>342,405</u>
Operating expenses:					
Operating costs	276,937	254,583	201,299	210,018	220,088
Selling, general and administrative	117,178	108,732	67,212	89,052	74,004
Preopening costs(1)	11,562	8,913	15,927	5,278	1,892
Gain on sale of assets(2)		(30,529)			
Impairment and other charges	856(6)		14,262(6)	75,660(6)	
Restructuring charges		(17)(4)	2,182(4)	12,952(4)	2,786(4)
Merger costs					(1,741)(9)
Depreciation and amortization:					
Hospitality	46,536	44,924	25,593	24,447	22,828
Opry and Attractions	5,129	5,778	6,270	13,955	11,159
ResortQuest	1,186				
Corporate and Other	6,099	5,778	6,542	6,257	6,870
	<u>58,950</u>	<u>56,480</u>	<u>38,405</u>	<u>44,659</u>	<u>40,857</u>
Total operating expenses	<u>465,483</u>	<u>398,162</u>	<u>339,287</u>	<u>437,619</u>	<u>337,886</u>
Operating income (loss):					
Hospitality	42,347	25,972	34,270	45,478	43,859
Opry and Attractions	(600)	1,596	(5,010)	(44,413)(8)	(8,183)
ResortQuest	(2,616)				
Corporate and Other	(43,396)	(42,111)	(40,110)	(38,187)	(28,220)
Preopening costs(1)	(11,562)	(8,913)	(15,927)	(5,278)	(1,892)
Gain on sale of assets(2)		30,529			
Impairment and other charges	(856)(6)		(14,262)(6)	(75,660)(6)	
Restructuring charges		17(4)	(2,182)(4)	(12,952)(4)	(2,786)(4)
Merger costs					1,741(9)
	<u>(16,683)</u>	<u>7,090</u>	<u>(43,221)</u>	<u>(131,012)</u>	<u>4,519</u>
Total operating income (loss)	<u>(16,683)</u>	<u>7,090</u>	<u>(43,221)</u>	<u>(131,012)</u>	<u>4,519</u>



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	Years Ended December 31,				
	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999
Interest expense, net of amounts capitalized	(52,804)	(46,960)	(39,365)	(30,307)	(15,047)
Interest income	2,461	2,808	5,554	4,046	5,922
Unrealized gain (loss) on Viacom stock	39,831	(37,300)	782		
Unrealized (loss) gain on derivatives, net	(33,228)	86,476	54,282		
Other gains and losses	2,209	1,163	2,661	(3,514)	586,371(10)(11)
Income (loss) from continuing operations before income taxes	(58,214)	13,277	(19,307)	(160,787)	581,765
Provision (benefit) for income taxes	(24,669)	1,318	(9,142)	(52,331)	172,831
Income (loss) from continuing operations	(33,545)	11,959	(10,165)	(108,456)	408,934
Gain (loss) from discontinued operations, net of taxes(3)	34,371	85,757	(48,833)	(47,600)	(15,280)
Cumulative effect of accounting change, net of taxes		(2,572)(5)	11,202(7)		
<b>Net income (loss)</b>	<b>\$ 826</b>	<b>\$ 95,144</b>	<b>\$ (47,796)</b>	<b>\$ (156,056)</b>	<b>\$ 393,654</b>
<b>Income (loss) per share:</b>					
Income (loss) from continuing operations	\$ (0.97)	\$ 0.36	\$ (0.30)	\$ (3.25)	\$ 12.42
Income (loss) from discontinued operations	0.99	2.54	(1.45)	(1.42)	(0.46)
Cumulative effect of accounting change		(0.08)	0.33		
<b>Net income (loss)</b>	<b>\$ 0.02</b>	<b>\$ 2.82</b>	<b>\$ (1.42)</b>	<b>\$ (4.67)</b>	<b>\$ 11.96</b>
<b>Income (loss) per share-assuming dilution:</b>					
Income (loss) from continuing operations	\$ (0.97)	\$ 0.36	\$ (0.30)	\$ (3.25)	\$ 12.31
Income (loss) from discontinued operations	0.99	2.54	(1.45)	(1.42)	(0.46)
Cumulative effect of accounting change		(0.08)	0.33		
<b>Net income (loss)</b>	<b>\$ 0.02</b>	<b>\$ 2.82</b>	<b>\$ (1.42)</b>	<b>\$ (4.67)</b>	<b>\$ 11.85</b>
Dividends per share	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$ 0.80

## As of December 31,

	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999
<b>BALANCE SHEET DATA:</b>					
Total assets	\$2,577,263	\$2,178,691(10)	\$2,177,644(10)	\$1,930,805(1)	\$1,741,215(0)
Total debt	548,759(12)	340,638(12)	468,997(12)	175,500	297,500
	613,054(10)	613,054(10)	613,054(10)	613,054(10)	

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Secured forward exchange  
contract

Total stockholders equity	904,509	787,579	696,988	765,937	1,007,149
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- (1) Preopening costs are related to the Gaylord Palms and the new Gaylord Texan hotel under construction in Grapevine, Texas. Gaylord Palms opened in January 2002 and the Gaylord Texan opened on April 2, 2004.
- (2) During 2002, the Company sold its one-third interest in the Opry Mills Shopping Center in Nashville, Tennessee and the related land lease interest between the Company and the Mills Corporation.
- (3) In August 2001, the FASB issued SFAS No. 144, Accounting for the Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets. In accordance with the provisions of SFAS No. 144, the Company has presented the operating results and financial position of the following businesses as discontinued operations: WSM-FM and WWTN(FM); Word Entertainment; Acuff-Rose Music Publishing; GET Management, the Company's artist management business; Oklahoma RedHawks; the Company's international cable networks; the businesses sold to affiliates of The Oklahoma Publishing Company

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consisting of Pandora Films, Gaylord Films, Gaylord Sports Management, Gaylord Event Television and Gaylord Production Company; and the Company's water taxis.

- (4) Related primarily to employee severance and contract termination costs.
- (5) Reflects the cumulative effect of the change in accounting method related to adopting the provisions of SFAS No. 142. The Company recorded an impairment loss related to impairment of the goodwill of the Radisson Hotel at Opryland. The impairment loss was \$4.2 million, less taxes of \$1.6 million.
- (6) Reflects the divestiture of certain businesses and reduction in the carrying values of certain assets. The components of the impairment and other charges related to continuing operations for the years ended December 31 are as follows:

	2003	2001	2000
Programming, film and other content	\$ 856	\$ 6,858	\$ 7,410
Gaylord Digital and other technology investments		4,576	48,127
Property and equipment		2,828	3,397
Orlando-area Wildhorse Saloon			15,854
Other			872
	—	—	—
Total impairment and other charges	\$ 856	\$ 14,262	\$ 75,660

- (7) Reflects the cumulative effect of the change in accounting method related to recording the derivatives associated with the secured forward exchange contract at fair value as of January 1, 2001, of \$18.3 million less a related deferred tax provision of \$7.1 million.
- (8) Includes operating losses of \$27.5 million related to Gaylord Digital, the Company's Internet initiative, and operating losses of \$6.1 million related to country record label development, both of which were closed during 2000.
- (9) The merger costs relate to the reversal of merger costs associated with the October 1, 1997 merger when TNN and CMT were acquired by CBS.
- (10) 1999 results of operations include a pretax gain of \$459.3 million on the divestiture of television station KTVT in Dallas-Ft. Worth in exchange for CBS Series B preferred stock (which was later converted into 11,003,000 shares of Viacom, Inc. Class B common stock), \$4.2 million of cash, and other consideration. The CBS Series B preferred stock was included in total assets at its market value of \$648.4 million at December 31, 1999. The Viacom, Inc. Class B common stock was included in total assets at its market values of \$488.3 million, \$448.5 million, \$485.8 million and \$514.4 million at December 31, 2003, 2002, 2001 and 2000, respectively. During 2000, the Company entered into a seven-year forward exchange contract for a notional amount of \$613.1 million with respect to 10,937,900 shares of the Viacom, Inc. Class B common stock. Prepaid interest related to the secured forward exchange contract of \$91.2 million, \$118.1 million, \$145.0 million and \$171.9 million was included in total assets at December 31, 2003, 2002, 2001 and 2000 respectively.
- (11) In 1995, the Company sold its cable television systems. Net proceeds were \$198.8 million in cash and a note receivable with a face amount of \$165.7 million, which was recorded at \$150.7 million, net of a \$15.0 million discount. As part of the sale transaction, the Company also received contractual equity participation rights (the Rights) equal to 15% of the net distributable proceeds from future asset sales. During 1998, the Company collected the full amount of the note receivable and recorded a pretax gain of \$15.0 million related to the note receivable discount. During 1999, the Company received cash and recognized a pretax gain of \$129.9 million representing the value of the Rights. The proceeds from the note receivable prepayment and the Rights were used to reduce outstanding bank indebtedness.
- (12) Related primarily to the construction of the Gaylord Palms and the new Gaylord Texan.

**Table of Contents****Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations  
Results of Operations for the Three Years Ended December 31, 2003*****Our Current Operations***

Our operations are organized into four principal businesses:

Hospitality, consisting of our Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center, our Gaylord Palms Resort and Convention Center, our Radisson Hotel at Opryland and our new Gaylord Texan Resort and Convention Center on Lake Grapevine.

Opry and Attractions, consisting of our Grand Ole Opry assets and our Nashville attractions.

ResortQuest, consisting of our vacation rental property management business.

Corporate and Other, consisting of our ownership interests in certain entities including our corporate expenses. During 2003, 2002, and 2001, we disposed of certain businesses, which have been classified as discontinued operations and are described in more detail below.

During the third quarter of 2003, we completed a sale of the assets primarily used in the operation of WSM-FM and WWTN(FM) (collectively, the Radio Operations). The Radio Operations were previously included in a fourth business segment, media, along with WSM-AM. Due to the Radio Operations now being included in discontinued operations, WSM-AM is now grouped in the Opry and Attractions business segment for all periods presented.

The acquisition of ResortQuest was completed on November 20, 2003. The results of operations of ResortQuest for the period November 20, 2003 to December 31, 2003 are included in the results discussed below.

For the years ended December 31, our total revenues from continuing operations were divided among these businesses as follows:

<b>Business</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2001</b>
Hospitality	82%	84%	77%
Opry and Attractions	14%	16%	23%
ResortQuest	4%	0%	0%
Corporate and Other	0%	0%	0%

We generate a significant portion of our revenues from our Hospitality business. We believe that we are the only hospitality company focused primarily on the large group meetings and conventions sector of the lodging market. Our strategy is to continue this focus by concentrating on our All-in-One-Place self-contained service offerings and by emphasizing customer rotation among our convention properties, while also offering additional vacation and entertainment opportunities to guests and target customers through the Opry and Attractions and ResortQuest businesses.

Our concentration in the hospitality industry, and in particular the large group meetings sector of the hospitality industry, exposes us to certain risks outside of our control. General economic conditions, particularly national and global economic conditions, can affect the number and size of meetings and conventions attending our hotels. Our business is also exposed to risks related to tourism, including terrorist attacks and other global events which affect levels of tourism in the United States and, in particular, the areas of the country in which our properties are located. Competition and the desirability of the locations in which our hotels and other vacation properties are located are also important risks to our business.

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***Key Performance Indicators; Hotel Industry Metrics***

As a hospitality-based company, our operating results are highly dependent on the volume of customers at our hotels and the quality of the customer mix at our hotels. These factors impact the price we can charge for our hotel rooms and other amenities such as food and beverages and meeting space at the resorts. Key performance indicators related to revenue are:

hotel occupancy (volume indicator);

average daily rate ( ADR ) (price indicator);

Revenue per Available Room ( RevPAR ) (a summary measure of hotel results calculated by dividing room sales by room nights available to guests for the period); and

Total Revenue per Available Room ( Total RevPAR ) (a summary measure of hotel results calculated by dividing the sum of room sales, food and beverage sales and other ancillary services revenue (which equals hospitality segment revenues) by room nights available to guests for the period).

We recognize revenue from rooms as earned on the close of business each day and from concessions and food and beverage sales at the time of sale. Almost all of our revenues are either cash-based or, for meeting and convention groups meeting our credit criteria, billed and collected on a short-term receivables basis. Our industry is capital intensive, and we rely on the ability of our resorts to generate operating cash flow to repay debt financing, fund maintenance capital expenditures and provide excess cash flow for future development.

Our results of operations are affected by the number and type of group meetings and conventions scheduled to attend our hotels in a given period. We attempt to offset any identified shortfalls in occupancy by creating special events at our hotels or offering incentives to groups in order to attract increased business during this period. A variety of factors can affect the results of any interim period, including the nature and quality of the group meetings and conventions attending our hotels during such period, which have often been contracted for several years in advance, and the level of transient business at our hotels during such period.

***Overall Outlook***

We have invested heavily in our operations in 2003 and 2002, primarily in connection with the opening of the Gaylord Palms in 2002, the continued construction of the Gaylord Texan in 2003 and the ResortQuest acquisition, which was consummated in November 2003. Subsequent to the expected completion of the Gaylord Texan in April 2004, our investments in 2004 will consist primarily of ongoing capital improvements rather than construction commitments. We believe that the Gaylord Texan will have an impact on our operating results in 2004, given that it is currently expected to be in operation for over eight months of the fiscal year.

We also believe that a full year of operations of our ResortQuest subsidiary will impact our financial results. Only the results of operations of ResortQuest from the period November 20, 2003 to December 31, 2003 have been included in our historical financial results.

As previously announced, we have plans to develop a Gaylord hotel on property to be acquired on the Potomac River in Prince George's County, Maryland (in the Washington, D.C. market), subject to the availability of financing, resolution of certain zoning issues and approval by our Board of Directors. We also are considering other potential sites. The timing and extent of any of these development projects is uncertain.

**Table of Contents****Selected Financial Information**

The following table contains our selected financial information for each of the three years ended December 31, 2003, 2002 and 2001. The table also shows the percentage relationships to total revenues and, in the case of segment operating income, its relationship to segment revenues.

**INCOME STATEMENT DATA:**

	Years Ended December 31,					
	2003	%	2002	%	2001	%
<b>REVENUES:</b>						
Hospitality	\$ 369,263	82.3	\$ 339,380	83.7	\$ 228,712	77.3
Opry and Attractions	61,433	13.7	65,600	16.2	67,064	22.6
ResortQuest	17,920	4.0				
Corporate and Other	184		272	0.1	290	0.1
Total revenues	448,800	100.0	405,252	100.0	296,066	100.0
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES:</b>						
Operating costs	276,937	61.7	254,583	62.8	201,299	68.0
Selling, general and administrative	117,178	26.1	108,732	26.8	67,212	22.7
Preopening costs	11,562	2.6	8,913	2.2	15,927	5.4
Gain on sale of assets			(30,529)	(7.5)		
Impairment and other charges	856	0.2			14,262	4.8
Restructuring charges			(17)		2,182	0.7
Depreciation and amortization:						
Hospitality	46,536	10.4	44,924	11.1	25,593	8.6
Opry and Attractions	5,129	1.1	5,778	1.4	6,270	2.1
ResortQuest	1,186	0.3				
Corporate and Other	6,099	1.4	5,778	1.4	6,542	2.2
Total depreciation and amortization	58,950	13.1	56,480	13.9	38,405	13.0
Total operating expenses	465,483	103.7	398,162	98.3	339,287	114.6
<b>OPERATING INCOME (LOSS):</b>						
Hospitality	42,347	11.5	25,972	7.7	34,270	15.0
Opry and Attractions	(600)	(1.0)	1,596	2.4	(5,010)	(7.5)
ResortQuest	(2,616)	(14.6)				
Corporate and Other	(43,396)	(A)	(42,111)	(A)	(40,110)	(A)
Preopening costs	(11,562)	(B)	(8,913)	(B)	(15,927)	(B)
Gain on sale of assets		(B)	30,529	(B)		(B)
Impairment and other charges	(856)	(B)		(B)	(14,262)	(B)
Restructuring charges		(B)	17	(B)	(2,182)	(B)
Total operating income (loss)	(16,683)	(3.7)	7,090	1.7	(43,221)	(14.6)
Interest expense, net of amounts capitalized	(52,804)	(C)	(46,960)	(C)	(39,365)	(C)
Interest income	2,461	(C)	2,808	(C)	5,554	(C)
Unrealized gain on Viacom stock and derivatives, net	6,603	(C)	49,176	(C)	55,064	(C)
Other gains and (losses), net	2,209	(C)	1,163	(C)	2,661	(C)
(Provision) benefit for income taxes	24,669	(C)	(1,318)	(C)	9,142	(C)

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Gain (loss) on discontinued operations, net	34,371	(C)	85,757	(C)	(48,833)	(C)
Cumulative effect of accounting change, net		(C)	(2,572)	(C)	11,202	(C)
Net income (loss)	\$ 826	(C)	\$ 95,144	(C)	\$ (47,796)	(C)

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- (A) These amounts have not been shown as a percentage of segment revenue because the Corporate and Other segment generates only minimal revenue.
- (B) These amounts have not been shown as a percentage of segment revenue because the Company does not associate them with any individual segment in managing the Company.
- (C) These amounts have not been shown as a percentage of total revenue because they have no relationship to total revenue.

***Summary Financial Results***

The following table summarizes our results of operations for the years ended 2003, 2002 and 2001:

	Year Ended December 31,				
	2003	Percentage Change	2002	Percentage Change	2001
(In thousands, except percentages and per share data)					
Total revenues	\$448,800	10.7%	\$405,252	36.9%	\$296,066
Total operating expenses	465,483	16.9%	398,162	17.4%	339,287
Operating income (loss)	(16,683)	(335.3%)	7,090	116.4%	(43,221)
Income (loss) from continuing operations	(33,545)	(380.5%)	11,959	217.6%	(10,165)
Income (loss) from continuing operations per share fully diluted	(0.97)	(369.4%)	0.36	220.0%	(0.30)

***2003 Results***

The Company's total revenues in 2003 increased 10.7% from 2002 primarily due to an increase in Hospitality revenues. The Company's income from continuing operations during the year ended 2003 decreased from the year ended 2002 primarily as a result of a decline in operating income caused by:

A one-time gain of \$30.5 million recognized in 2002 as a result of the sale of our Opry Mills investment, which increased our 2002 operating income by a corresponding amount.

An additional \$2.6 million in preopening costs over 2002 primarily related to a \$7.3 million increase in preopening costs at the Gaylord Texan and a \$4.5 million decrease in preopening costs at the Gaylord Palms.

An additional \$2.5 million in our depreciation and amortization expense in 2003 due to additional capital expenditures and the acquisition of ResortQuest.

A loss of \$2.6 million from the operations of ResortQuest from the period from November 20, 2003 to December 31, 2003. Also contributing to our loss from continuing operations in 2003 were:

The recognition of a net unrealized gain on our investment in Viacom stock and the related secured forward exchange contract of \$6.6 million in 2003, as compared to a net unrealized gain of \$49.2 million in 2002.

A \$5.8 million increase in our interest expense in 2003 primarily due to the costs associated with refinancing our indebtedness and repaying the debt of ResortQuest, as well as additional amounts of debt outstanding. Serving to lessen the impact of the items described above was an 8.8% increase in Hospitality revenue in 2003, although such increase was partially offset by an 8.8% increase in our operating costs and a 7.8% increase in our selling general and administrative expenses.

**Table of Contents***2002 Results*

In 2002, income from continuing operations increased from 2001 primarily as a result of the one-time gain from the sale of our Opry Mills investment and a significant reduction in the amount of restructuring charges and impairment and other charges as compared to 2001. However, total revenues also increased 36.9% in 2002 as a result of an increase in Hospitality revenues caused by the opening of the Gaylord Palms. This increase in total revenues was offset partially by a 17.4% increase in operating expenses in 2002, consisting primarily of increases in operating costs, selling, general and administrative expenses, and depreciation and amortization expense related to the opening of the Gaylord Palms.

*Per Share Results*

Results on a per share basis in 2003 were impacted by a higher weighted average number of shares outstanding, due to the issuance of 5,318,363 shares on November 20, 2003 in connection with the ResortQuest acquisition.

*Operating Results*

The following table includes key information about our operating results:

	Year Ended December 31,				
	2003	Percentage Change	2002	Percentage Change	2001
(In thousands, except percentages)					
Total revenues	\$ 448,800	10.7%	\$ 405,252	36.9%	\$ 296,066
Operating expenses:					
Operating costs	276,937	8.8%	254,583	26.5%	201,299
Selling, general and admin.	117,178	7.8%	108,732	61.8%	67,212
Preopening costs	11,562	29.7%	8,913	(44.0)%	15,927
Gain on sale of assets			(30,529)		
Impairment and other charges	856				14,262
Restructuring charges			(17)	(100.8)%	2,182
Depreciation and amortization	58,950	4.4%	56,480	47.1%	38,405
Operating income (loss)	\$ (16,683)	(335.3)%	\$ 7,090	116.4%	\$ (43,221)

The most important factors and trends contributing to our operating performance over the last three years have been:

An improvement in the operating performance of our hotels as compared to previous periods.

Improved food and beverage, banquet and catering services at our hotels, which have increased our Total Revenue per Available Room at our hotels.

The impact of the opening of the Gaylord Palms in 2002 on our total revenues and the accompanying increase in our total operating expenses;

Our ongoing assessment of operations and the related incurrence of restructuring charges to streamline those operations;

Our re-evaluation of the carrying values of certain assets and the related incurrence of impairment charges related to these assets;

The ResortQuest acquisition, which was completed on November 20, 2003; and

Preopening costs associated with the Gaylord Palms and the Gaylord Texan.

The factors described above, particularly the increase in Hospitality revenues associated with improved operations at the Gaylord Palms and Gaylord Opryland, and the inclusion of ResortQuest's revenues for



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the period from November 20, 2003 to December 31, 2003, led to the increase in our total revenue in 2003. The increase in total revenue in 2002 as compared to 2001 is primarily attributable to the opening of the Gaylord Palms in 2002.

Excluding the one-time \$30.5 million gain recognized on the sale of our interests in Opry Mills in 2002, operating loss improved 28.8% due to the increase in our total revenues and a reduction in the rate of growth of our operating costs.

Excluding the one-time \$30.5 million gain recognized on the sale of our interests in Opry Mills in 2002 and our impairment and restructuring charges our operating loss improved 12.4% from 2001 to 2002 due primarily to the opening of the Gaylord Palms. In analyzing operating loss in 2001 compared to income from operations in 2002, we believe it is appropriate to eliminate the effect of the one-time gain on sale of the Opry Mills interest because it is non-recurring, because the gain or loss on sale of discontinued operations is not included in operating income (loss) and because considering operating loss after eliminating this item gives a more accurate comparison of the operating performance of our business for the periods.

**Operating Results Detailed Revenue Information**

The following presents detail of our net revenues:

	Year Ended December 31,				
	2003	Percentage Change	2002	Percentage Change	2001
	(In thousands, except percentages)				
Hospitality revenue	\$ 369,263	8.8%	\$ 339,380	48.4%	\$ 228,712
Opry and Attractions revenue	61,433	(6.4)%	65,600	(2.2)%	67,064
ResortQuest revenue	17,920				
Corporate and other revenue	184	(32.4)%	272	(6.2)%	290
<b>Total revenues</b>	<b>\$ 448,800</b>	<b>10.7%</b>	<b>\$ 405,252</b>	<b>36.9%</b>	<b>\$ 296,066</b>

The growth in our total revenues in both 2003 and 2002 was driven primarily by a growth in Hospitality revenues during such periods. Total revenues also increased in 2003, as compared to 2002, as a result of the inclusion of the revenues of ResortQuest from the period November 20, 2003 to December 31, 2003. Detailed information with respect to the revenues of the Hospitality, the Opry and Attractions, ResortQuest and the Corporate and Other businesses are discussed in more detail below.

*Hospitality Revenue*

Hospitality revenue increased in 2003 as compared to 2002 due to the improved property-level performance at the Gaylord Palms and Gaylord Opryland as a result of an increase in food and beverage and other ancillary revenues, as well as a result of an increase in RevPAR due to increased occupancy levels. The term other ancillary revenues means non-room revenue other than food and beverage and consists primarily of revenue from banquets and other events hosted by the hotel, gift shop and other miscellaneous sales. Property-level revenue increased in 2003 as a result of changes to our group sales strategy in 2002 compared to 2001. These changes included a refocused sales effort on the defined target customer, a revamped incentive program for our sales executives, as well as a new focus on rotating group meetings between the Gaylord Palms and Gaylord Opryland. Hospitality revenue increased in 2002 as compared to 2001 primarily due to the opening of the Gaylord Palms in January 2002.

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The following table presents details of the revenues, and the key revenue drivers, of our Hospitality business as a whole, Gaylord Opryland and Gaylord Palms:

## Year Ended December 31,

	2003	Percentage Change	2002	Percentage Change	2001
<b>Hospitality Business(1):</b>					
Total revenues (in thousands)	\$ 369,263	8.8%	\$ 339,380	48.4%	\$ 228,712
Occupancy	72.2%	7.4%	67.2%	(3.3)%	69.5%
Average Daily Rate	\$ 142.57	(2.4)%	\$ 146.07	8.1%	\$ 135.15
RevPAR(2)	\$ 102.86	4.8%	\$ 98.18	4.4%	\$ 94.00
Total RevPAR (3)	\$ 220.44	8.3%	\$ 203.60	3.5%	\$ 196.62
<b>Gaylord Opryland:</b>					
Total revenues (in thousands)	\$ 215,265	4.4%	\$ 206,132	(7.1)%	\$ 221,932
Occupancy	72.4%	5.6%	68.6%	(2.4)%	70.3%
Average Daily Rate	\$ 137.47	(3.6)%	\$ 142.58	1.6%	\$ 140.33
RevPAR(2)	\$ 99.59	1.8%	\$ 97.80	(0.9)%	\$ 98.65
Total RevPAR (3)	\$ 204.75	4.5%	\$ 195.97	(7.1)%	\$ 211.01
<b>Gaylord Palms:</b>					
Total revenues (in thousands)	\$ 146,800	16.1%	\$ 126,473		\$
Occupancy	72.3%	11.5%	64.8%		
Average Daily Rate	\$ 165.79	(1.7)%	\$ 168.65		\$
RevPAR(2)	\$ 119.87	9.6%	\$ 109.37		\$
Total RevPAR (3)	\$ 286.05	13.8%	\$ 251.26		\$

- (1) The results of our Hospitality business include the results of our Radisson Hotel at Opryland, located in Nashville, Tennessee.
- (2) The Company calculates RevPAR by dividing room sales for comparable properties by room nights available to guests for the period. RevPAR is not comparable to similarly titled measures such as revenues.
- (3) The Company calculates Total Revenue per Available Room ( Total RevPAR ) by dividing the sum of room sales, food and beverage sales, and other ancillary services revenue (which equals hospitality segment revenues) by room nights available to guests for the period. Total Revenue per Available Room is not comparable to similarly titled measures such as revenues.

*Gaylord Opryland.* The increase in Gaylord Opryland revenue in 2003 as compared to 2002 is due to improved occupancy at the hotel. Despite rate pressure caused by customer mix, the increase in hotel occupancy led to an increase in 2003 RevPAR. In addition, favorable food and beverage and other ancillary revenue contributed to the increase in Total Revenue per Available Room in 2003. The decline in revenue at the hotel in 2002 as compared to 2001 is due to the reduced occupancy levels at the hotel throughout 2002. Despite an improved average daily rate in 2002 due to more favorable group room pricing, the decline in occupancy led to a decline in 2002 RevPAR at the hotel. In addition, this lower occupancy contributed to a decline in food and beverage and other ancillary revenue at the hotel, resulting in the decline in Total Revenue per Available Room in 2002.

*Gaylord Palms.* The increase in Gaylord Palms revenue in 2003 as compared to 2002, its first year of operation, is primarily due to improved occupancy at the hotel during the first half of 2003 as well as improved rates at the hotel during the first quarter of 2003. Although average daily rate decreased in 2003 due to less favorable group room pricing throughout the second half of the year, this increase in occupancy (driven by improved group bookings and an increase in transient guests) led to an increase in 2003

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RevPAR at the hotel. In addition, increased customer utilization of food and beverage and other ancillary services at the hotel contributed to the increase in Total Revenue per Available Room from 2002.

### *Opry and Attractions Revenue*

The decrease in Opry and Attractions revenues in 2003 and 2002, as compared to the previous year, was primarily a result of a decrease in the revenue of Corporate Magic, a company specializing in the production of creative events in the corporate entertainment marketplace, of \$7.8 million in 2003 and \$5.1 million in 2002. This reduction was caused by reduced spending by corporate customers as a result of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001 and the resulting downturn in the economy, which reduced demand for corporate events. The decrease in revenue of Corporate Magic was partially offset by an increase in revenues of the Grand Ole Opry of \$2.3 million in 2003 (to \$18.3 million) and \$2.5 million (to \$15.9 million) in 2002. The Grand Ole Opry revenue increase is due to an increase in popular performers appearing on the Grand Ole Opry and a resulting increase in attendance.

### *ResortQuest Revenue*

On November 20, 2003, we completed our acquisition of ResortQuest. Accordingly, our total revenues for the year ended December 31, 2003 include the revenues of ResortQuest from the period November 20, 2003 to December 31, 2003. Our ResortQuest group receives property management fees when the properties are rented, which are generally a percentage of the rental price of the vacation property. Management fees range from approximately 3% to over 40% of gross lodging revenues collected based upon the type of services provided by us to the property owner and the type of rental units managed. We also recognize other revenues primarily related to real estate broker commissions, food & beverage sales and software and maintenance sales.

### *Corporate and Other Revenue*

The decline in Corporate and Other revenue in 2003 and 2002, which consists of corporate sponsorships and rental income, is primarily due to reductions in sponsorship revenues from Opry Mills, which was divested in the second quarter of 2002.

### ***Operating Results Detailed Operating Expense Information***

The 16.9% increase in total operating expenses in 2003 can be attributed to an increase in our operating costs, driven primarily by increases in our preopening costs, depreciation and amortization expense and selling, general and administrative expenses. However, despite these increases:

Operating costs, as a percentage of revenues, decreased to 61.7% during 2003 as compared to 62.8% during 2002.

Selling, general and administrative expenses, as a percentage of revenues, decreased to 26.1% during 2003 from 26.8% in 2002.

These decreases are primarily the result of improved operational efficiency at our hotels. Excluding the gain on sale of assets, the impairment and other charges and restructuring charges from both periods, total operating expenses increased \$35.9 million, or 8.4%, to \$464.6 million in 2003 as compared to 2002.

### *Operating Costs*

Operating costs consist of direct costs associated with the daily operations of our core assets, primarily the room, food and beverage and convention costs in Hospitality. Operating costs also include the direct costs associated with the operations of our other business units. Operating costs increased in both 2003 and 2002 due to increases in Hospitality operating costs. Operating costs for each of our businesses are discussed below.

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*Hospitality Operating Costs.* Hospitality operating costs were as follows:

	Year Ended December 31,				
	2003	Percentage Change	2002	Percentage Change	2001
(In thousands, except percentages)					
Total Hospitality					
Operating Costs:	\$ 215,900	3.5%	\$ 208,500	49.0%	\$ 139,900
Gaylord Opryland					
Operating Costs:	131,000	1.0%	129,700	(5.1)%	136,600
Gaylord Palms					
Operating Costs:	81,700	8.6%	75,200		

Hospitality operating costs increased in 2003, as compared to 2002, primarily due to increased utilization of services at the Gaylord Opryland and the Gaylord Palms. The 2002 increase in Hospitality operating costs is primarily due to the opening of Gaylord Palms in January 2002, although such increase was partially offset by a decrease in operating costs at Gaylord Opryland due to the reduced levels of occupancy, and corresponding reductions in variable expenses, at the hotel during the year.

*Opry and Attractions Operating Costs.* Opry and Attractions operating costs decreased \$0.2 million, or 0.5%, to \$39.3 million in 2003. Although the operating costs of the Grand Ole Opry increased \$2.9 million in 2003 in response to increased revenues, the operating costs of Corporate Magic decreased \$5.6 million to \$7.5 million in 2003, as compared to 2002. This decrease is due to Corporate Magic's lower revenue and certain cost saving measures taken by the Company during 2003.

Operating costs in the Opry and Attractions group decreased \$11.2 million, or 22.0%, to \$39.5 million in 2002. The operating costs of Corporate Magic decreased \$7.6 million, to \$13.2 million in 2002, as compared to 2001 primarily due to the lower revenue and certain cost saving measures taken by the Company during 2002. The operating costs of the Grand Ole Opry and the General Jackson Showboat decreased \$1.0 million in 2002 due to cost saving measures.

*ResortQuest Operating Costs.* Operating costs for ResortQuest during the period from November 20, 2003 to December 31, 2003 were \$13.4 million.

*Corporate and Other Operating Costs.* Corporate and Other operating costs increased \$1.7 million, or 25.4%, to \$8.3 million in 2003 as compared to 2002 due primarily to changes in our long-term incentive plan compensation program and changes to the actuarial assumptions used in our pension plan. Corporate and Other operating costs decreased \$4.1 million, or 38.4%, to \$6.6 million in 2002 as compared to 2001 due to the elimination of unnecessary management levels and overhead at the hotels identified in our 2001 Strategic Assessment.

*Selling, General and Administrative Expenses*

Selling, general and administrative expenses consist of administrative and overhead costs. Selling, general, and administrative expenses increased \$8.4 million, or 7.8%, to \$117.2 million in 2003, primarily due to increases in Hospitality selling, general and administrative expenses described below.

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*Hospitality Selling, General and Administrative Expenses.* Hospitality selling, general and administrative expenses were as follows:

	Year Ended December 31,				
	2003	Percentage Change	2002	Percentage Change	2001
(In thousands, except percentages)					
Total Hospitality					
SG&A Expenses:	\$64,500	7.5%	\$60,000	107.6%	\$28,900
Gaylord Opryland					
SG&A Expenses:	31,700	6.0%	29,900	8.3%	27,600
Gaylord Palms					
SG&A Expenses:	31,300	6.8%	29,300		

The increase in Gaylord Opryland's selling, general and administrative expenses in 2003 and 2002 is due primarily to an increase in sales efforts at the hotel and advertising to promote the special events held at the hotel in these years. The increase in Gaylord Palms' selling, general and administrative expenses in 2003 is due to an increase in sales efforts at the hotel and an increase in special events advertising, while the 2002 increase is primarily due to the opening of the Gaylord Palms in January 2002.

*Opry and Attractions Selling, General and Administrative Expenses.* Selling, general and administrative expenses in Opry and Attractions decreased \$1.1 million, or 5.9%, to \$17.6 million in 2003. This decrease is primarily due to a \$0.9 million decrease at Corporate Magic due to decreased revenues in 2003.

Opry and Attractions selling, general and administrative expenses increased \$3.6 million, or 23.7%, to \$18.7 million in 2002. This increase was partially due to increases in selling, general and administrative expenses for the General Jackson Showboat (an increase of \$1.4 million, to \$1.9 million) due to increased labor costs associated with additional revenue and increased management support during 2002. Also, selling, general, and administrative expenses increased \$1.3 million to \$5.5 million at the Grand Ole Opry due to an increase in revenue.

*ResortQuest Selling, General and Administrative Expenses.* Selling, general and administrative expenses for ResortQuest during the period from November 20, 2003 to December 31, 2003 were \$5.9 million.

*Corporate and Other Selling, General and Administrative Expenses.* Corporate and Other selling, general and administrative expenses, consist primarily of the Gaylord Entertainment Center naming rights agreement, senior management salaries and benefits, legal, human resources, accounting, pension and other administrative costs. During 2003, these expenses decreased \$0.8 million, or 2.7%, to \$29.2 million due to decreased corporate marketing expense.

During 2002, our Corporate and Other selling, general and administrative expenses increased \$6.9 million, or 29.8%, to \$30.0 million as a result of amendments to our retirement plans and our retirement savings plan. As a result of these amendments, and as more fully described in Note 17 to our consolidated financial statements:

our retirement cash balance benefit was frozen and the policy related to future contributions to our retirement savings plan was changed;

as a result of these changes, we recorded a pretax charge of \$5.7 million related to the write-off of unamortized prior service costs in selling, general, and administrative expenses;

we amended the eligibility requirements of our postretirement benefit plans effective December 31, 2001; and

in connection with the amendment and curtailment of the plans, we recorded a gain of \$2.1 million which served to reduce our other selling, general and administrative expenses in 2002.

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Other increases in Corporate and Other selling, general and administrative expenses in 2002 can be attributed to increased personnel costs related to new corporate departments that did not previously exist, new management personnel in other corporate departments, and increased corporate marketing expenses as compared to the same period in 2001.

*Preopening Costs*

In accordance with AICPA SOP 98-5, Reporting on the Costs of Start-Up Activities, we expense the costs associated with start-up activities and organization costs as incurred. Preopening costs increased \$2.6 million, or 29.7%, to \$11.6 million in 2003. The increase in preopening costs in 2003, as compared to 2002, resulted from our hotel development activities. Preopening costs related to our Gaylord Texan hotel, scheduled to open in April 2004, totaled \$11.3 million in 2003, as compared to \$4.0 million in 2002. Preopening costs decreased in 2002 as compared to 2001 as a result of the opening of the Gaylord Palms in January of 2002. Gaylord Palms preopening costs decreased \$8.4 million, to \$4.5 million, in 2002 as compared to 2001. This decrease was partially offset by an increase in preopening costs related to the Gaylord Texan (\$4.0 million in 2002, as compared to \$3.1 million in 2001).

*Gain on Sale of Assets*

During 2003, we did not recognize any material gains or losses on the sale of assets in operating income.

In 2002, we recognized a gain of approximately \$30.5 million in connection with our ownership interest in Opry Mills. We entered into a partnership in 1998 with The Mills Corporation to develop the Opry Mills Shopping Center in Nashville, Tennessee. We held a one-third interest in the partnership as well as the title to the land on which the shopping center was constructed, which was being leased to the partnership. During the second quarter of 2002, we sold our partnership share to certain affiliates of The Mills Corporation for approximately \$30.8 million in cash proceeds. In accordance with the provisions of SFAS No. 66, Accounting for Sales of Real Estate, and other applicable pronouncements, we deferred approximately \$20.0 million of the gain representing the estimated fair value of the continuing land lease interest between us and the Opry Mills partnership at June 30, 2002. We recognized the remainder of the proceeds, net of certain transaction costs, as a gain of approximately \$10.6 million during the second quarter of 2002. During the third quarter of 2002, we sold our interest in the land lease to an affiliate of the Mills Corporation and recognized the remaining \$20.0 million deferred gain, less certain transaction costs.

*Impairment and Other Charges*

During 2001, we named a new Chairman and a new Chief Executive Officer, and had numerous changes in senior management. The new management team instituted a corporate reorganization and the reevaluation of our businesses and other investments (the 2001 Strategic Assessment). As a result of the 2001 Strategic Assessment, we determined that the carrying value of certain long-lived assets were not fully recoverable and recorded pretax impairment and other charges from continuing operations during 2001 and 2003 in accordance with the provisions of SFAS No. 144, Accounting for the Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets. The components of the impairment and other charges related to continuing operations for the years ended December 31 are as follows (amounts in thousands):

	2003	2002	2001
	_____	_____	_____
Programming, film and other content	\$856	\$	\$ 6,858
Gaylord Digital and other technology investments			4,576
Property and equipment			2,828
	_____	_____	_____
Total impairment and other charges	\$856	\$	\$ 14,262
	_____	_____	_____

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We began production of an IMAX movie during 2000 to portray the history of country music. As a result of the 2001 Strategic Assessment, the carrying value of the IMAX film asset was reevaluated on the basis of its estimated future cash flows, resulting in an impairment charge of \$6.9 million in 2001.

At December 31, 2000, we held a minority investment in a technology start-up business. During 2001, the unfavorable environment for technology businesses created difficulty for this business to obtain adequate capital to execute its business plan and, subsequently, we were notified that this technology business had been unsuccessful in arranging financing, resulting in an impairment charge of \$4.6 million. We also recorded an impairment charge related to idle real estate of \$2.0 million during 2001 based upon an assessment of the value of the property. We sold this idle real estate during the second quarter of 2002. Proceeds from the sale approximated the carrying value of the property. In addition, we recorded an impairment charge for other idle property and equipment totaling \$0.8 million during 2001 primarily due to the consolidation of offices resulting from personnel reductions.

In the third quarter of 2003, based on the revenues generated by the theatrical release of the IMAX movie, the asset was again reevaluated on the basis of estimated future cash flows. As a result, an additional impairment charge of \$0.9 million was recorded in the third quarter of 2003. The carrying value of the asset was \$1.2 million as of December 31, 2003.

### *Restructuring Charges*

As part of the 2001 Strategic Assessment, we recognized pretax restructuring charges from continuing operations of \$5.8 million related to streamlining operations and reducing layers of management. We recognized additional pretax restructuring charges from discontinued operations of \$3.0 million in 2001. These restructuring charges were recorded in accordance with EITF No. 94-3. The restructuring costs from continuing operations consisted of \$4.7 million related to severance and other employee benefits and \$1.1 million related to contract termination costs, offset by the reversal of restructuring charges recorded in 2000 of \$3.7 million primarily related to negotiated reductions in certain contract termination costs. The restructuring costs from discontinued operations in 2001 consisted of \$1.6 million related to severance and other employee benefits and \$1.8 million related to contract termination costs offset by the reversal of restructuring charges recorded in 2000 of \$0.4 million.

As part of our ongoing assessment of operations during 2002, we identified certain duplication of duties within divisions and realized the need to streamline those tasks and duties. Related to this assessment, during the second quarter of 2002, we adopted a plan of restructuring resulting in a pretax restructuring charge of \$1.1 million related to employee severance costs and other employee benefits unrelated to discontinued operations. Also during 2002, we reversed approximately \$1.1 million of the prior year's restructuring charge. These restructuring charges were recorded in accordance with EITF No. 94-3. As of December 31, 2002, we recorded cash payments of \$1.1 million against the 2002 restructuring accrual. During the fourth quarter of 2002, the outplacement agreements expired related to the 2002 restructuring charge. Therefore, we reversed the remaining \$67,000 accrual. There was no remaining balance of the 2002 restructuring accrual at December 31, 2002.

### *Depreciation and Amortization*

Depreciation expense increased \$1.2 million, or 2.4%, to \$53.9 million in 2003. The increase in 2003 is due to additional capital expenditures and the acquisition of ResortQuest in 2003. Depreciation expense increased \$18.0 million, or 51.7%, to \$52.7 million in 2002. The increase during 2002 is primarily attributable to the opening of Gaylord Palms in January 2002. Depreciation expense of Gaylord Palms was \$18.6 million subsequent to the January 2002 opening.

Amortization expense increased by \$1.2 million, or 32.3%, to \$5.0 million in 2003 and increased slightly, by \$0.1 million, in 2002. Amortization of software increased \$1.2 million during 2003 and \$0.9 million during 2002, primarily at Gaylord Opryland, Gaylord Palms and the Corporate and Other group. The 2002 increase in amortization of software was partially offset by the adoption of SFAS No. 142 on January 1, 2002, under the provisions of which we no longer amortize goodwill.

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### *Non-Operating Results*

#### *Interest Expense*

Interest expense increased \$5.8 million, or 12.4%, to \$52.8 million in 2003, net of capitalized interest of \$14.8 million. The increase in interest expense is primarily due to the costs associated with refinancing our indebtedness and the repayment of the outstanding debt of ResortQuest, as well as additional amounts of debt outstanding during 2003. Interest expense related to the amortization of prepaid costs and interest of the secured forward exchange contract (all of which has been prepaid) was \$26.9 million during 2003. Our weighted average interest rate on our borrowings, including the interest expense associated with the secured forward exchange contract and excluding the write-off of deferred financing costs during the period, was 5.3% in 2003 and 2002.

Interest expense increased \$7.6 million, or 19.3%, to \$47.0 million in 2002, net of capitalized interest of \$6.8 million. The increase in interest expense is primarily due to the opening of the Gaylord Palms, after which interest related to the Gaylord Palms was no longer capitalized. Capitalized interest related to the Gaylord Palms hotel was \$0.4 million during 2002 before its opening and was \$16.4 million during 2001. The absence of capitalized interest related to Gaylord Palms was partially offset by an increase of \$4.0 million of capitalized interest related to the Texas hotel. Interest expense related to the amortization of prepaid costs and interest of the secured forward exchange contract was \$26.9 million during 2002 and 2001.

Excluding capitalized interest from each period, interest expense decreased \$4.4 million in 2002 due to the lower average borrowing levels and lower weighted average interest rates during 2002. Our weighted average interest rate on our borrowings, including the interest expense associated with the secured forward exchange contract, was 5.3% in 2002 as compared to 6.3% in 2001.

#### *Interest Income*

The decrease in interest income of \$0.3 million (to \$2.5 million) in 2003 and \$2.7 million (to \$2.8 million) in 2002 primarily relates to a decrease in interest income from invested cash balances.

#### *Gain (Loss) on Viacom Stock and Derivatives*

During 2000, we entered into a seven-year secured forward exchange contract with respect to 10.9 million shares of our Viacom stock investment. Effective January 1, 2001, we adopted the provisions of SFAS No. 133, as amended. Components of the secured forward exchange contract are considered derivatives as defined by SFAS No. 133.

For the year ended December 31, 2003, we recorded net pretax losses of \$33.2 million related to the decrease in fair value of the derivatives associated with the secured forward exchange contract. For the year ended December 31, 2003, we recorded net pretax gains of \$39.8 million related to the increase in fair value of the Viacom stock. For the year ended December 31, 2002, we recorded net pretax gains of \$86.5 million related to the increase in fair value of the derivatives associated with the secured forward exchange contract. For the year ended December 31, 2002, we recorded net pretax losses of \$37.3 million related to the decrease in fair value of the Viacom stock. For the year ended December 31, 2001, we recorded net pretax gains of \$54.3 million related to the increase in fair value of the derivatives associated with the secured forward exchange contract. Additionally, we recorded a nonrecurring pretax gain of \$29.4 million on January 1, 2001, related to reclassifying our investment in Viacom stock from available-for-sale to trading as permitted by SFAS No. 115, Accounting for Certain Investments in Debt and Equity Securities. For the year ended December 31, 2001, we recorded net pretax losses of \$28.6 million related to the decrease in fair value of the Viacom stock subsequent to January 1, 2001.

#### *Other Gains and Losses*

Other gains and losses, which consisted of dividends received on the Viacom stock and gains and losses on disposals of fixed assets, increased \$1.0 million, or 89.9%, to \$2.2 million in 2003. Other gains and losses decreased \$1.5 million, or 56.3%, to \$1.2 million in 2002. The decrease in 2002 is primarily due to the fact

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that during 2001, the indemnification period ended related to the sale of KTVT and we recognized a \$4.6 million gain in 2001.

*Income Taxes*

The effective income tax rate from continuing operations was 42%, 10%, and 47% in 2003, 2002, and 2001, respectively. The effective tax rate as applied to pretax income from continuing operations differed from the statutory federal rate due to the following:

	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2001</u>
U.S. federal statutory rate	35%	35%	35%
State taxes (net of federal tax benefit and change in valuation allowance)	8		2
Effective tax law change		7	
Previously accrued income taxes		(37)	16
Other	(1)	5	(6)
	<u>42%</u>	<u>10%</u>	<u>47%</u>

The effective income tax rate in 2003 (which was a benefit rate reflecting the 2003 loss) increased from 2002 primarily due to the impact in 2002 of previously recorded income taxes. The previously recorded income taxes relate to the favorable resolution of issues which were either settled with taxing authorities or had statutes of limitations expire. In addition, the rate increased due to the current year state tax benefit and the release of a portion of the state valuation allowance. The Company released valuation allowance of \$2.4 million due to the utilization of state net operating loss carryforwards from the sale of Radio Operations. As a result, the Company increased the deferred tax asset by \$2.4 million and increased the 2003 tax benefit by \$2.4 million.

The effective income tax rate in 2002 decreased from 2001 primarily due to the impact in 2002 of previously recorded income taxes. In addition, the Tennessee legislature increased the corporate income tax rate from 6% to 6.5% during 2002. As a result, the Company increased the deferred tax liability by \$1.3 million and increased 2002 tax expense by \$1.3 million.

*Gain (Loss) from Discontinued Operations*

The Company has reflected the following businesses as discontinued operations, consistent with the provisions of SFAS No. 144. The results of operations, net of taxes (prior to their disposal where applicable), and the estimated fair value of the assets and liabilities of these businesses have been reflected in the Company's consolidated financial statements as discontinued operations in accordance with SFAS No. 144 for all periods presented.

*WSM-FM and WWTN(FM)*. During the first quarter of 2003, the Company committed to a plan of disposal of WSM-FM and WWTN(FM). Subsequent to committing to a plan of disposal during the first quarter of 2003, the Company, through a wholly-owned subsidiary, entered into an agreement to sell the assets primarily used in the operations of WSM-FM and WWTN(FM) to Cumulus Broadcasting, Inc. (Cumulus) in exchange for approximately \$62.5 million in cash. In connection with this agreement, the Company also entered into a local marketing agreement with Cumulus pursuant to which, from April 21, 2003 until the closing of the sale of the assets, the Company, for a fee, made available to Cumulus substantially all of