# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

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

DATE OF REPORT (DATE OF EARLIEST EVENT REPORTED) November 13, 2008

NORDSTROM, INC.
(EXACT NAME OF REGISTRANT AS SPECIFIED IN ITS CHARTER)

WASHINGTON 001-15059 91-0515058

(STATE OR OTHER JURISDICTION OF INCORPORATION)

(COMMISSION FILE NUMBER)

(I.R.S. EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NO.)

1617 SIXTH AVENUE, SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98101 (ADDRESS OF PRINCIPAL EXECUTIVE OFFICES) (ZIP CODE)

REGISTRANT'S TELEPHONE NUMBER, INCLUDING AREA CODE (206) 628-2111

INAPPLICABLE (FORMER NAME OR FORMER ADDRESS IF CHANGED SINCE LAST REPORT)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2 below):

 Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
 Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
 Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
 Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

#### ITEM 2.02 Results of Operations and Financial Condition

On November 13, 2008, Nordstrom, Inc. issued an earnings release announcing its results of operations for the quarter and nine months ended November 1, 2008, its financial position as of November 1, 2008, and its cash flows for the nine months ended November 1, 2008. A copy of this earnings release is attached as Exhibit 99.1.

# ITEM 7.01 Regulation FD Disclosure

On November 13, 2008, Nordstrom, Inc. issued an earnings release announcing its results of operations for the quarter and nine months ended November 1, 2008, its financial position as of November 1, 2008, and its cash flows for the nine months ended November 1, 2008. A copy of this earnings release is attached as Exhibit 99.1.

99.1 Nordstrom earnings release dated November 13, 2008 relating to the Company's results of operations for the quarter and nine months ended November 1, 2008, its financial position as of November 1, 2008, and its cash flows for the nine months ended November 1, 2008.

# **SIGNATURE**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

NORDSTROM, INC.

By: /s/Michael G. Koppel -----Michael G. Koppel

Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

Dated: November 13, 2008

# EXHIBIT INDEX

**EXHIBIT** 

DESCRIPTION NUMBER

99.1 Nordstrom earnings release dated November 13, 2008 relating to

the Company's results of operations for the quarter and nine months ended November 1, 2008, its financial position as of November 1, 2008, and its cash flows for the nine months ended November 1, 2008.

For release: November 13, 2008 at 1:05 p.m. PT

# NORDSTROM REPORTS 2008 THIRD QUARTER EARNINGS

SEATTLE, Wash. - November 13, 2008 - Nordstrom, Inc. (NYSE: JWN) today reported net earnings of \$71 million, or \$0.33 per diluted share, for the third quarter ended November 1, 2008. For the same quarter last year, Nordstrom reported net earnings of \$166 million and earnings per diluted share of \$0.68.

Total sales in the third quarter were \$1.81 billion, a decrease of 8.4 percent compared with sales of \$1.97 billion during the same period in fiscal 2007. Third quarter same-store sales decreased 11.1 percent.

Results for the third quarter ended November 3, 2007, included a \$20.9 million gain, net of tax, or \$0.09 per diluted share, from the sale of the Faconnable business, which closed during the third quarter of fiscal 2007.

#### THIRD QUARTER HIGHLIGHTS

-Third quarter results include two non-comparable items that had a benefit to earnings per share of approximately \$0.03. The company's third quarter earnings outlook did not include these items because they were not part of our view of ongoing operations.

-Nordstrom, Inc. same-store sales decreased 11.1 percent for the quarter. Results in full-line stores continued to be challenging, as same-store sales decreased 15.6 percent in the quarter. Nordstrom Rack outperformed its offprice competition with a same-store sales increase of 3.6 percent. Sales for the Direct segment, which is nordstrom.com, increased 8.5 percent. Sales in all of our businesses were significantly impacted after the financial markets began to experience severe stress in mid-September.

-Gross profit, as a percentage of sales, decreased 332 basis points compared with last year's third quarter as we responded to slower sales trends and the competitive environment with increased markdowns. Quarter-end inventory per square foot was down 3 percent from the prior year.

-Selling, general and administrative expenses increased 2.6 percent, or \$14 million, compared with last year's third quarter. The company's continued focus on expense control resulted in expense growth well below annual square footage growth of 5.7%.

-In the third quarter of 2008, Nordstrom repurchased 0.8 million shares of stock totaling \$26 million, with an average price of \$30.82. The company suspended its share repurchase program in September. The company may resume the program in the future when economic conditions improve. Third quarter share repurchases had a minimal impact on third quarter earnings per diluted

# CAPITAL INVESTMENT AND EXPANSION UPDATE

The company's capital expenditures are expected to total approximately \$350 million in fiscal year 2009, compared to approximately \$510 million in fiscal year 2008. Given current economic conditions and delays in real estate development, the company now expects to relocate one full-line store and open 3 new full-line stores in 2009 and 4-5 new full-line stores in 2010.

On November 6, 2008 Nordstrom opened a new Rack store at Liberty Tree Mall in Danvers, Mass., on November 7, 2008 it opened a 77,000-square-foot full-line store at Waterside Shops in Naples, Fla. and today it opened a new Rack store at The Rim in San Antonio, Tex.

# FISCAL YEAR 2008 OUTLOOK

Same-store Sales

Gross Profit (%)

For the fiscal year ending January 31, 2009, the company anticipates earnings per diluted share in the range of \$1.87 to \$1.97. Outlined in the table below are the company's expectations for fiscal year 2008:

Fiscal 2008

9% to 10% decrease

250 to 280 basis point decrease

Selling, General and Admin. Expense (%)

160 to 190 basis point increase

Interest Expense, net Finance Charges and Other, net Effective Tax Rate Earnings per Diluted Share Diluted Shares Outstanding \$65 to \$70 million increase \$30 to \$40 million increase 37.2% to 37.7% \$1.87 to \$1.97 220 million

#### FOURTH QUARTER 2008 OUTLOOK

For the fourth quarter of 2008, the company anticipates earnings per diluted share in the range of \$0.35 to \$0.45. When compared to the planned same-store sales rate of negative 13 to negative 16 percent for the fourth quarter of fiscal 2008, the monthly same-store sales rates in November are expected to be below the anticipated quarterly rate. In December, the monthly same-store sales rate is expected to be above the anticipated quarterly rate.

#### CONFERENCE CALL INFORMATION:

The company's senior management will host a conference call to discuss third quarter results at 4:30 p.m. Eastern Time today. To listen, please dial 800-779-8419 or 312-470-7356 (passcode: NORD). A telephone replay will be available beginning approximately one hour after the conclusion of the call by dialing 800-294-6358 or 402-220-9789 until the close of business on November 20, 2008. Interested parties may also listen to the live call over the Internet by visiting the Investor Relations section of the company's corporate Web site at http://investor.nordstrom.com. An archived webcast will be available in the Webcasts section until the close of business on February 13, 2009.

Nordstrom, Inc. is one of the nation's leading fashion specialty retailers, with 169 stores located in 28 states. Founded in 1901 as a shoe store in Seattle, today Nordstrom operates 109 full-line stores, 56 Nordstrom Racks, two Jeffrey boutiques, and two clearance stores. Nordstrom also serves customers through its online presence at http://www.nordstrom.com and through its catalogs. Nordstrom, Inc. is publicly traded on the NYSE under the symbol JWN.

Certain statements in this news release contain "forward-looking" information (as defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995) that involve risks and uncertainties, including anticipated financial results for the fiscal year ending January 31, 2009 and its fourth quarter, anticipated quarterly and annual same-store sales rate, capital investments, anticipated store openings and trends in company operations. Actual future results and trends may differ materially from historical results or current expectations depending upon factors including, but not limited to the impact of economic and market conditions and the resultant impact on consumer spending patterns, the company's ability to respond to the business environment and fashion trends, the competitive pricing environment within the retail sector, effective inventory management, successful execution of the company's store growth strategy including the timely completion of construction associated with newly planned stores, relocations, and remodels, the effectiveness of planned advertising, marketing, and promotional campaigns, the company's compliance with applicable banking and related laws and regulations impacting the company's ability to extend credit to its customers, the company's

compliance with information security and privacy laws and regulations, employment laws and regulations and other laws and regulations applicable to the company, successful execution of the company's multi-channel strategy, the company's ability to safeguard its brand and reputation, efficient and proper allocation of the company's capital resources, successful execution of the company's technology strategy, trends in personal bankruptcies and bad debt write-offs, changes in interest rates, the company's ability to maintain its relationships with company employees and to effectively train and develop its future leaders, the company's ability to control costs, risks related to fluctuations in world currencies, and weather conditions and hazards of nature that affect consumer traffic and consumers' purchasing patterns. Our SEC reports, including our Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended February 2, 2008, contain other information on these and other factors that could affect our financial results and cause actual results to differ materially from any forward-looking information we may provide. The company undertakes no obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements to reflect subsequent events, new information or future circumstances.

Investor Contact: Chris Holloway Nordstrom, Inc. (206) 303-3290 Media Contact: Brooke White Nordstrom, Inc. (206) 373-3030 NORDSTROM, INC.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF EARNINGS - 3rd Quarter (unaudited; amounts in millions, except per share data and percentages)

Quarter % of sales(1) Quarter % of sales(1) ended (except as ended (except as 11/1/08 indicated) 11/3/07 indicated) ------------ Net sales \$ 1,805 100.0% <del>\$ 1,970</del> <del>100.0% Cost</del> of sales and <del>related</del> buying & occupancy costs (1,185) <del>(65.7%)</del> (1,228)(62.3%) ---Gross profit 620 34.3% 742 <del>37.7%</del> <del>Selling,</del>

general and administrative expenses (567) (31.4%) (553) (28.0%) Finance charges and
other, net 74
4.1% 69 3.5%
Gain on sale
of Faconnable
- 0.0% 34
1.7%

Earnings
before
interest and
income taxes
127 7.1% 292
14.8%
Interest
expense, net
(33) (1.9%)
(20) (1.0%)

Earnings
before income
taxes 94 5.2%
272 13.8%
Income tax
expense (23)
(24.3%)(2)
(106) (39.0%)
(2)

DATA Weighted average shares outstanding Basic 215.6 241.5 Diluted 218.1 245.3

**ADDITIONAL** 

(1) Subtotals and totals may not foot due to rounding.

(2) Percent of earnings before income taxes.

# NORDSTROM, INC. CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF EARNINGS - Year-to-Date (unaudited; amounts in millions, except per share data and percentages)

Nine Months % of sales(1) Nine Months % of sales(1) ended (except as ended (except as 11/1/08 indicated) 11/3/07 indicated) -------- Net sales \$ 5,971 100.0% \$ 6,314 100.0% Cost of sales and <del>related</del> buying & occupancy costs (3,852) (64.5%) (3,957)(62.7%) <del>Gross</del> profit 2,119 <del>35.5% 2,357</del> 37.3% Selling, general and administrative expenses (1,716)(28.7%)(1,723)<del>(27.3%)</del> Finance charges and <del>other, net</del> <del>220 3.7% 195</del> 3.1% Gain on sale of Faconnable | 0.0% 34 0.5%

Earnings
before
interest and
income taxes
623 10.4% 863
13.7%
Interest
expense, net
(98) (1.6%)
(44) (0.7%)

Earnings
before income
taxes 525
8.8% 819
13.0% Income
tax expense
(192) (36.6%)

<del>(2) (316)</del> (38.5%)(2)earnings \$ 333 5.6% \$ <del>503 8.0%</del> -----Earnings per share Basic \$ 1.54 \$ 2.01 <del>Diluted \$</del> 1.52 \$ 1.98 **ADDITIONAL DATA Weighted** average shares **outstanding** Basic 216.9 250.2 Diluted <del>219.8 254.5</del>

(1) Subtotals and totals may not foot due to rounding.

(2) Percent of earnings before income taxes.

NORDSTROM, INC.
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

(unaudited; amounts in millions)

11/1/08 2/2/08 11/3/07 -------- Assets Current assets: Cash

assets: Cash and cash equivalents

<del>\$ 68 \$ 358 \$</del>

108 Accounts receivable, net 1,918 1,788 1,734 Merchandise **inventories** 1,278 956 1,242 Income taxes <del>receivable</del> 33 **Current** <del>deferred tax</del> assets, net <del>196 181 190</del> **Prepaid** expenses and other 67 78 69 - Total current assets 3,560 3,361 3,343 <del>Land,</del> **buildings** and equipment, net 2,215 1,983 1,910 Goodwill 53 53 53 Other assets 236 <del>203 181</del> Total assets \$ 6,064 \$ <del>5,600 \$</del> 5,487 **Liabilities** and Shareholders' **Equity** Current liabilities: **Commercial** paper \$ 102 \$ - \$ 91 **Accounts** payable 805 556 738 **Accrued** salaries, wages and <del>related</del> benefits 202 <del>268 266</del> <del>Other</del> current **liabilities** 503 492 438 **Income taxes** 

Total
current
liabilities
2,037 1,635
1,784 Long

209

payable 58
42 Current
portion of
long term
debt 425 261

term debt, net 2,215 <del>2,236 1,791</del> **Deferred** property incentives, net 417 369 355 Other **liabilities** <del>233 245 249</del> Shareholders' equity: Common stock, no par value: 1,000 shares authorized; <del>215.4,</del> 220.9, and 232.0 shares issued and **outstanding** 990 936 927 Retained earnings 192 <del>201 408</del> **Accumulated** other comprehensive <del>loss (20)</del>  $\frac{(22)}{(27)}$ <del>Total</del> shareholders' equity 1,162 1,115 1,308 <del>Total</del> **liabilities** and shareholders! equity \$ 6,064 \$ <del>5,600 \$</del> <del>5,487</del> ------

#### CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

(unaudited; amounts in millions)

```
Nine Months Nine
   Months ended
  ended 11/1/08
11/3/07 -----
    Operating
  Activities Net
 earnings $ 333 $
 503 Adjustments
 to reconcile net
 earnings to net
 cash provided by
    (used in)
    operating
   activities:
 Depreciation and
 amortization of
  buildings and
equipment 222 203
 Gain on sale of
Faconnable (34)
 Amortization of
<del>deferred property</del>
  incentives and
 other, net (30)
 (30) Stock-based
   compensation
  expense 21 21
 Deferred income
 taxes, net (59)
 (33) Tax benefit
 from stock-based
  payments 4 27
    Excess tax
   benefit from
   stock-based
payments (4) (25)
Provision for bad
 debt expense 106
   <del>71 Change in</del>
 <del>operating assets</del>
 and liabilities:
     Accounts
 receivable (62)
      (1,041)
  Investment in
   asset backed
 <del>securities</del>
   Merchandise
inventories (301)
  <del>(283) Prepaid</del>
 expenses 9 (10)
  Other assets 9
  (28) Accounts
 payable 280 131
Accrued salaries,
wages and related
  benefits (66)
    <del>(67) Other</del>
     <del>current</del>
 liabilities 8
   Income taxes
payable/receivable
    (91) (22)
Deferred property
incentives 87 42
Other liabilities
(12) 2
               Net
 cash provided by
    (used in)
    <del>operating</del>
  activities 454
```

(153)

Investing Activities Capital

expenditures (439) (358) Change in accounts <del>receivable</del> <del>originated at</del> third parties <del>(171) (102)</del> Proceeds from <del>sale of</del> Faconnable -216 Proceeds from sale of assets 1 12 Other, net 1 3 Net cash used in investing activities (608) (229) **Financing Activities** Proceeds from commercial paper 102 91 Proceeds from long-term borrowings 150 1,522 Principal payments on longterm borrowings <del>(8) (177)</del> (Decrease) increase in cash book overdrafts (45) 23 Proceeds from exercise of stock options 13 32 Proceeds from employee stock purchase plan 16 17 Excess tax benefit from stock-based payments 4 25 Cash dividends paid (104) (103) Repurchase of  $\textcolor{red}{\textbf{common-stock}}$ (264) (1,340) Other, net - (3) (used in) <del>provided by</del> **financing** 

Net cash activities (136)

decrease in cash and cash equivalents (290) (295) Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period 358 403

Cash and cash equivalents at end of period \$ 68 \$ 108 \_\_\_\_\_