## 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 18, 2009

# Limited Brands, Inc.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Delaware

(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation)

1-8344 (Commission File Number)

Three Limited Parkway Columbus, OH (Address of Principal Executive Offices)

43230

31-1029810

(IRS Employer Identification No.)

(Zip Code)

(614) 415-7000

(Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code)

Not Applicable

(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)

Dere-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))

Dere-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.

#### Item 7.01 Regulation FD Disclosure.

The following information is being furnished pursuant to Item 2.02, "Results of Operations and Financial Condition" and Item 7.01 "Regulation FD Disclosure", and shall not be deemed "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), or incorporated by reference in any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Exchange Act, except as shall be expressly set forth by specific reference in such a filing.

On November 18, 2009, Limited Brands, Inc. issued a press release setting forth its third quarter 2009 earnings. A copy of the press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 and is hereby incorporated by reference.

#### Exhibit 99.1

Press Release dated November 18, 2009 announcing earnings for the third quarter 2009.

#### SIGNATURES

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

Limited Brands, Inc.

By /s/ Stuart B. Burgdoerfer

Stuart B. Burgdoerfer Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

Date: November 20, 2009

# Limitedbrands

#### LIMITED BRANDS REPORTS THIRD QUARTER 2009 EARNINGS

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Columbus, Ohio, Nov. 18, 2009 - Limited Brands, Inc. (NYSE: LTD) today reported 2009 third quarter results.

#### Third Quarter Results

Adjusted earnings per share for the third quarter ended Oct. 31, 2009, were \$0.02 compared to earnings per share of \$0.01 for the quarter ended Nov. 1, 2008, which exclude an income tax benefit in 2009 as detailed below. Third quarter operating income was \$58.9 million compared to operating income of \$41.2 million last year, and adjusted net income was \$6.1 million compared to net income of \$4.2 million last year.

The 2009 adjusted results above exclude an income tax benefit, primarily due to the resolution of certain tax matters, of \$8.8 million, or \$0.03 per share. Including this benefit, 2009 net income was \$14.9 million and earnings per share were \$0.05.

Comparable store sales for the third quarter decreased 2 percent, and net sales were \$1.777 billion compared to \$1.842 billion last year.

At the conclusion of this press release is a reconciliation of reported to adjusted results.

#### 2009 Outlook

The company stated that it expects fourth quarter earnings of \$0.71 to \$0.86 per share, and full year adjusted earnings of \$0.93 to \$1.08 per share.

#### **Earnings Call Information**

Limited Brands will conduct its third quarter earnings call at 9 a.m. Eastern time on Thursday, Nov. 19. To listen, call 1-866-583-6618 (international dial-in number: 1-937-200-3978). For an audio replay, call 1-866-NEWS-LTD (international replay number: 1-706-902-3452) or log onto <u>www.Limitedbrands.com</u>. Additional third quarter financial information is also available at <u>www.Limitedbrands.com</u>.

#### ABOUT LIMITED BRANDS:

Limited Brands, through Victoria's Secret, Pink, Bath & Body Works, C.O. Bigelow, La Senza, White Barn Candle Co. and Henri Bendel, presently operates 3,025 specialty stores. The company's products are also available online at <u>www.VictoriasSecret.com</u>, <u>www.BathandBodyWorks.com</u>, <u>www.HenriBendel.com</u> and <u>www.LaSenza.com</u>.

#### Safe Harbor Statement Under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995

We caution that any forward-looking statements (as such term is defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995) contained in this press release or the third quarter earnings call involve risks and uncertainties and are subject to change based on various important factors, many of which are beyond our control. Accordingly, our future performance and financial results may differ materially from those expressed or implied in any such forward-looking statements. Words such as "estimate," "project," "plan," "believe," "expect," "anticipate," "intend," "planned," "potential" and similar expressions may identify forward-looking statements. Risks associated with the following factors, among others, in some cases have affected and in the future could affect our financial performance and actual results and could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied in any forward-looking statements included in this press release or the third quarter earnings call:

- general economic conditions, consumer confidence and consumer spending patterns;
- the global economic crisis and its impact on our suppliers, customers and other counterparties;
- the impact of the global economic crisis on our liquidity and capital resources;
- the dependence on a high volume of mall traffic and the possible lack of availability of suitable store locations on appropriate terms;
- the seasonality of our business;
- our ability to grow through new store openings and existing store remodels and expansions;
- our ability to expand into international markets;
- independent licensees;
- our direct channel business including our new distribution center;
- our failure to protect our reputation and our brand images;
- our failure to protect our trade names and trademarks;
- market disruptions including severe weather conditions, natural disasters, health hazards, terrorist activities or the prospect of these events;
- stock price volatility;
- our failure to maintain our credit rating;
- our ability to service our debt;
- the highly competitive nature of the retail industry generally and the segments in which we operate in particular;
- consumer acceptance of our products and our ability to keep up with fashion trends, develop new merchandise, launch new product lines successfully, offer products at the appropriate price points and enhance our brand image;
- our ability to retain key personnel;
- our ability to attract, develop and retain qualified employees and manage labor costs;
- our reliance on foreign sources of production, including risks related to:
  - political instability;
  - duties, taxes, other charges on imports;
  - legal and regulatory matters;
  - volatility in currency and exchange rates;
  - local business practices and political issues;
  - potential delays or disruptions in shipping and related pricing impacts; and
  - the disruption of imports by labor disputes;
- the possible inability of our manufacturers to deliver products in a timely manner or meet quality standards;
- fluctuations in energy costs;
- increases in the costs of mailing, paper and printing;
- self-insured risks;
- our ability to implement and sustain information technology systems;
- our failure to comply with regulatory requirements; and
- legal matters.

We are not under any obligation and do not intend to make publicly available any update or other revisions to any of the forward-looking statements contained in this press release or the third quarter earnings call to reflect circumstances existing after the date of this press release or to reflect the occurrence of future events even if experience or future events make it clear that any expected results expressed or implied by those forward-looking statements will not be realized. Additional information regarding these and other factors can be found in "Item 1A. Risk Factors" in our 2008 Annual Report on Form 10-K. For further information, please contact:

Limited Brands:

Investor Relations Amie Preston (614) 415-6704 <u>apreston@limitedbrands.com</u> Media Relations Tammy Roberts Myers (614) 415-7072 <u>extcomm@limitedbrands.com</u>

#### LIMITED BRANDS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

#### CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME

#### THIRTEEN WEEKS ENDED OCTOBER 31, 2009 AND NOVEMBER 1, 2008

#### (Unaudited)

#### (In thousands except per share amounts)

		2009			
	Reported	Adjustments	Adjusted	Reported	
Net Sales	\$ 1,777,289	\$ —	\$ 1,777,289	\$ 1,842,184	
Cost of Goods Sold, Buying & Occupancy	(1,214,541)		(1,214,541)	(1,261,940)	
Gross Profit	562,748		562,748	580,244	
General, Administrative and Store Operating Expenses	(503,863)		(503,863)	(539,028)	
Operating Income	58,885		58,885	41,216	
Interest Expense	(56,321)	—	(56,321)	(44,464)	
Interest Income	575	—	575	5,565	
Other Income	8,228		8,228	869	
Income Before Income Taxes	11,367		11,367	3,186	
Provision (Benefit) for Income Taxes	(3,487)	8,755	5,268	(982)	
Net Income	14,854	(8,755)	6,099	4,168	
Less: Net Income (Loss) Attributable to Noncontrolling Interest					
Net Income Attributable to Limited Brands, Inc.	\$ 14,854	\$ (8,755)	\$ 6,099	\$ 4,168	
Net Income Attributable to Limited Brands, Inc. Per Diluted Share	\$ 0.05		\$ 0.02	\$ 0.01	
Weighted Average Shares Outstanding	328,259		328,259	340,125	

#### LIMITED BRANDS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

#### CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME

#### THIRTY-NINE WEEKS ENDED OCTOBER 31, 2009 AND NOVEMBER 1, 2008

#### (Unaudited)

#### (In thousands except per share amounts)

		2009			2008		
	Reported	Adjustments	Adjusted	Reported	Adjustments	Adjusted	
Net Sales	\$ 5,569,137	\$ —	\$ 5,569,137	\$ 6,051,579	\$ —	\$ 6,051,579	
Cost of Goods Sold, Buying & Occupancy	(3,790,023)		(3,790,023)	(4,069,843)		(4,069,843)	
Gross Profit	1,779,114		1,779,114	1,981,736		1,981,736	
General, Administrative and Store Operating Expenses	(1,506,373)	—	(1,506,373)	(1,654,925)	—	(1,654,925)	
Net Gain on Joint Ventures	9,441	(9,441)		108,962	(108,962)		
Operating Income	282,182	(9,441)	272,741	435,773	(108,962)	326,811	
Interest Expense	(175,847)	—	(175,847)	(136,213)		(136,213)	
Interest Income	2,014	—	2,014	16,743	—	16,743	
Other Income	5,439		5,439	23,181	(13,293)	9,888	
Income Before Income Taxes	113,788	(9,441)	104,347	339,484	(122,255)	217,229	
Provision for Income Taxes	22,015	13,368	35,383	139,224	(52,690)	86,534	
Net Income	91,773	(22,809)	68,964	200,260	(69,565)	130,695	
Less: Net Income (Loss) Attributable to Noncontrolling Interest				(3,733)		(3,733)	
Net Income Attributable to Limited Brands, Inc.	\$ 91,773	\$ (22,809)	\$ 68,964	\$ 203,993	\$ (69,565)	\$ 134,428	
Net Income Attributable to Limited Brands, Inc. Per Diluted Share	\$ 0.28		\$ 0.21	\$ 0.60		\$ 0.39	
Weighted Average Shares Outstanding	325,747		325,747	341,913		341,913	

Certain prior year amounts have been reclassified to conform with the current year presentation.

#### LIMITED BRANDS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME AND RECONCILIATION OF ADJUSTED RESULTS (Unaudited)

The "Adjusted Results" provided in the attached unaudited Consolidated Statements of Income and Reconciliation of Adjusted Results are non-GAAP financial measures and reflect the following:

#### Fiscal 2009

In the second quarter of 2009, adjusted results exclude an after-tax gain of \$14 million related to the disposal of a non-core joint venture.

In the third quarter of 2009, adjusted results exclude an income tax benefit, primarily due to the resolution of certain tax matters, of \$8.8 million.

#### Fiscal 2008

In the first quarter of 2008, adjusted results exclude the following:

- a \$128 million pre-tax gain related to the sale of a non-core joint venture; and
- a \$19 million pre-tax charge related to the impairment of the investment carrying value of another non-core joint venture

In the second quarter of 2008, adjusted results exclude a \$13.3 million pre-tax gain, included in other income, related to a \$71 million cash distribution from Express.

The Unaudited Adjusted Consolidated Statements of Income should not be construed as an alternative to the reported results determined in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Further, the Company's definition of adjusted income information may differ from similarly titled measures used by other companies. While it is not possible to predict future results, management believes the adjusted information is useful for the assessment of the ongoing operations of the Company. The Unaudited Adjusted Consolidated Statements of Income should be read in conjunction with the Company's historical financial statements and notes thereto contained in the Company's quarterly reports on Form 10-Q and annual report on Form 10-K.