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): April 29, 2019

J & J SNACK FOODS CORP.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

| New Jersey | 0-14616 | 22-1935537 |
|---|---|--|
| (State or Other | (Commission | (I.R.S. Employer |
| Jurisdiction of Organization) | File Number) | Identification No.) |
| | C000 C | |
| | | |
| (A | ddress of principal executive offices) (Zip Code) | |
| Registrant' | s telephone number, including area code: (856) 6 | 665-9533 |
| | N/A | |
| (Forme | | eport) |
| · | , , | • / |
| Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below): | is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing ob | bligation of the registrant under any of the following |
| () Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 unde | r the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425) | |
| () Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the | ne Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12) | |
| () Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Ro | ale 14d-2 (b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 2d | 40.14d-2(b)) |
| () Pre-commencement communications pursuant to | Or Other (Commission (LR.S. Employer File Number) (Identification No.) 6000 Central Highway, Pennsauken, NJ 08109 (Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code) Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (856) 665-9533 N/A (Former name or former address, if changed since last report) box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following all Instruction A.2. below): cations pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425) all pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12) ent communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2 (b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b)) tent communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c)) which whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of this chapter) in the communication of the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of this chapter) in the communication of the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of this chapter) in the communication of the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of this chapter) in the communication of the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of this chapter) in the communication period for complying with any capacity in the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any and growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any | |
| | | the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of this chapter) |
| Emerging growth company $\ \square$ | | |
| If an emerging growth company, indicate by ch new or revised financial accounting standards provided | 9 | 1 100 |
| | 4 | |

ITEM 2.02. RESULTS OF OPERATIONS AND FINANCIAL CONDITIONS

On April 29, 2019, J & J Snack Foods Corp. issued a press release regarding its earnings for the second quarter of fiscal 2019.

ITEM 9.01. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND EXHIBITS.

(c) Exhibits

Exhibit Number Description of Document

99.1 <u>Press Release dated April 29, 2019</u>

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.

J & J SNACK FOODS CORP.

By: /s/ Gerald B. Shreiber

Gerald B. Shreiber President

/s/ Dennis G. Moore

Dennis G. Moore Chief Financial Officer

Date: April 29, 2019

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit Number Description

99.1 Press Release dated April 29, 2019

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE FOR:

Contact: Dennis G. Moore

Senior Vice President Chief Financial Officer

(856) 532-6603



J & J SNACK FOODS REPORTS SECOND QUARTER SALES AND EARNINGS

Pennsauken, NJ, April 29, 2019 - J & J Snack Foods Corp. (NASDAQ-JJSF) today announced sales and earnings for the second quarter ended March 30, 2019.

Sales increased 4% to \$276.3 million from \$266.1 million in last year's second quarter. Net earnings increased 14% to \$20.4 million in the current quarter from \$17.8 million last year. Earnings per diluted share increased 14% to \$1.08 for the second quarter from \$.95 last year. Operating income increased 5% to \$24.8 million in the current quarter from \$23.5 million in the year ago quarter.

For the six months ended March 30, 2019, sales increased 3% to \$547.9 million from \$531.3 million in last year's first half. Net earnings decreased to \$37.9 million in the six months from \$54.1 million last year. Earnings per diluted share decreased to \$2.00 from \$2.88 last year. Operating income increased 5% to \$46.9 million this year from \$44.8 million last year.

Net earnings for last year's six months benefitted from a \$20.9 million, or \$1.11 per diluted share, gain on the re-measurement of deferred tax liabilities and were impacted by a \$1.2 million, or \$.06 per diluted share, provision for the one-time repatriation tax, both of which resulted from the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act enacted in December 2017. This year's six months benefitted by a reduction of approximately \$900,000 in tax, or \$.05 per diluted share, as the one-time repatriation tax was recorded on an estimated basis at December 30, 2017 and was revised downward in this year's first quarter.

Gerald B. Shreiber, J & J's President and Chief Executive Officer, commented, "We are pleased that each of our business segments contributed to our increased operating income this quarter. We remain focused on continuing to improve our margins and revenues going forward."

J&J Snack Foods Corp. (NASDAQ: JJSF) is a leader and innovator in the snack food industry, providing innovative, niche and affordable branded snack foods and beverages to foodservice and retail supermarket outlets. Manufactured and distributed nationwide, our principal products include SUPERPRETZEL, the #1 soft pretzel brand in the world, as well as internationally known ICEE and SLUSH PUPPIE frozen beverages, LUIGI'S Real Italian Ice, MINUTE MAID* frozen ices, WHOLE FRUIT sorbet and frozen fruit bars, SOUR PATCH KIDS** Flavored Ice Pops, Tio Pepe's & CALIFORNIA CHURROS, and THE FUNNEL CAKE FACTORY funnel cakes and several bakery brands within DADDY RAY'S, COUNTRY HOME BAKERS and HILL & VALLEY. With nearly twenty manufacturing facilities, and more than \$1 billion in annual revenue, J&J Snack Foods Corp. has continued to see steady growth as a company, reaching record sales for 47 consecutive years. The company consistently seeks out opportunities to expand its unique niche market product offering while bringing smiles to families worldwide. For more information, please visit http://www.jisnack.com.

*MINUTE MAID is a registered trademark of The Coca-Cola Company.

**SOUR PATCH KIDS is a registered trademark of Mondelez International group, used under license.

J & J SNACK FOODS CORP. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF EARNINGS

(Unaudited)

 $(in\ thousands,\ except\ per\ share\ amounts)$

| | | Three months ended | | | | Six months ended | | | | |
|---|-------------------|--------------------|------------------|---------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|---------|--|--|
| | March 30, 2019 | | March 31 2018 | | March 30, 2019 | | March 31 2018 | | | |
| Net Sales | \$ | 276,302 | \$ | 266,101 | \$ | 547,914 | \$ | 531,311 | | |
| Cost of goods sold | | 197,054 | | 188,823 | | 391,803 | | 380,754 | | |
| Gross Profit | | 79,248 | | 77,278 | | 156,111 | | 150,557 | | |
| Operating expenses | | | | | | | | | | |
| Marketing | | 21,952 | | 22,507 | | 43,394 | | 44,083 | | |
| Distribution | | 22,122 | | 22,417 | | 46,074 | | 43,576 | | |
| Administrative | | 9,998 | | 9,004 | | 19,241 | | 18,360 | | |
| Other general expense(income) | | 405 | | (191) | | 549 | | (231) | | |
| Total Operating Expenses | | 54,477 | | 53,737 | | 109,258 | | 105,788 | | |
| Operating Income | | 24,771 | | 23,541 | | 46,853 | | 44,769 | | |
| Other income (expense) | | | | | | | | | | |
| Investment income | | 2,782 | | 1,493 | | 3,822 | | 2,982 | | |
| Interest expense & other | | (25) | | (33) | | (52) | | 476 | | |
| Earnings before income taxes | | 27,528 | | 25,001 | | 50,623 | | 48,227 | | |
| Income taxes | | 7,174 | | 7,168 | | 12,743 | | (5,855) | | |
| NET EARNINGS | <u>\$</u> | 20,354 | \$ | 17,833 | \$ | 37,880 | \$ | 54,082 | | |
| Earnings per diluted share | <u>\$</u> | 1.08 | \$ | 0.95 | \$ | 2.00 | \$ | 2.88 | | |
| Weighted average number of diluted shares | | 18,891 | | 18,803 | | 18,894 | | 18,790 | | |
| Earnings per basic share | <u>\$</u> | 1.08 | \$ | 0.95 | \$ | 2.02 | \$ | 2.90 | | |
| | _ | 18,795 | | 18,685 | | 18,780 | | 18,675 | | |

J & J SNACK FOODS CORP. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

(in thousands, except share amounts)

| | | Iarch 30, 2019 naudited) | September 29, 2018 | | |
|--|--------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|----------|--|
| Assets | | | | | |
| Current assets | | | | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$ | 126,655 | \$ | 111,479 | |
| Marketable securities held to maturity | | 22,228 | | 21,048 | |
| Accounts receivable, net | | 130,204 | | 132,342 | |
| Inventories | | 123,104 | | 112,884 | |
| Prepaid expenses and other | | 4,904 | | 5,044 | |
| Total current assets | | 407,095 | _ | 382,797 | |
| | | , | | ĺ | |
| Property, plant and equipment, at cost | | | | | |
| Land | | 2,494 | | 2,494 | |
| Buildings | | 26,582 | | 26,582 | |
| Plant machinery and equipment | | 303,096 | | 290,396 | |
| Marketing equipment | | 299,923 | | 290,955 | |
| Transportation equipment | | 9,058 | | 8,929 | |
| Office equipment | | 30,803 | | 30,752 | |
| Improvements | | 39,573 | | 38,941 | |
| Construction in progress | | 9,847 | | 8,468 | |
| Total Property, plant and equipment, at cost | | 721,376 | | 697,517 | |
| Less accumulated depreciation and amortization | | 475,207 | | 454,844 | |
| | | 246,169 | _ | 242,673 | |
| Property, plant and equipment, net | | 246,169 | | 242,6/3 | |
| Other eggsts | | | | | |
| Other assets | | 100 F11 | | 100 511 | |
| Goodwill | | 102,511 | | 102,511 | |
| Other intangible assets, net | | 56,077 | | 57,762 | |
| Marketable securities held to maturity | | 116,893 | | 118,765 | |
| Marketable securities available for sale | | 21,151 | | 24,743 | |
| Other | | 2,816 | | 2,762 | |
| Total other assets | _ | 299,448 | | 306,543 | |
| Total Assets | \$ | 952,712 | \$ | 932,013 | |
| | | | | | |
| Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity | | | | | |
| Current Liabilities | . | | | 20.4 | |
| Current obligations under capital leases | \$ | 299 | \$ | 324 | |
| Accounts payable | | 68,348 | | 69,592 | |
| Accrued insurance liability | | 9,963 | | 11,217 | |
| Accrued liabilities | | 8,284 | | 8,031 | |
| Accrued compensation expense | | 15,904 | | 20,297 | |
| Dividends payable | | 9,405 | | 8,438 | |
| Total current liabilities | | 112,203 | | 117,899 | |
| Long-term obligations under capital leases | | 611 | | 753 | |
| Deferred income taxes | | 52,932 | | 52,322 | |
| Other long-term liabilities | | 1,851 | | 1,948 | |
| Other rong-term intollities | | 1,031 | | 1,540 | |
| Stockholders' Equity | | | | | |
| Preferred stock, \$1 par value; authorized 10,000,000 shares; none issued | | - | | - | |
| Common stock, no par value; authorized, 50,000,000 shares; issued and outstanding 18,815,000 and | | | | | |
| 18,754,000 respectively | | 35,243 | | 27,340 | |
| Accumulated other comprehensive loss | | (13,044) | | (11,994) | |
| Retained Earnings | | 762,916 | | 743,745 | |
| Total stockholders' equity | | 785,115 | | 759,091 | |
| Total Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity | \$ | 952,712 | \$ | 932,013 | |
| rotal Enginees and Stockholders Equity | - | | | | |

J & J SNACK FOODS CORP. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (Unaudited) (in thousands)

Six Months Ended

| | | 1arch 30, 2019 | March 31, 2018 | | |
|---|----|-------------------|-------------------|--|--|
| Operating activities: | | | | | |
| Net earnings | \$ | 37,880 \$ | 54,082 | | |
| Adjustments to reconcile net earnings to net cash provided by operating activities: | | | | | |
| Depreciation of fixed assets | | 21,890 | 21,360 | | |
| Amortization of intangibles and deferred costs | | 1,747 | 1,779 | | |
| Share-based compensation | | 1,931 | 1,914 | | |
| Deferred income taxes | | 615 | (15,360) | | |
| Gain on redemption and sales of marketable securities | | 284 | (3) | | |
| Other | | 268 | (150) | | |
| Changes in assets and liabilities net of effects from purchase of companies | | | | | |
| Decrease (increase) in accounts receivable | | 2,003 | (1,821) | | |
| Increase in inventories | | (10,186) | (12,789) | | |
| Decrease (increase) in prepaid expenses | | 172 | (2,560) | | |
| Decrease in accounts payable and accrued liabilities | | (6,345) | (4,555) | | |
| Net cash provided by operating activities | | 50,259 | 41,897 | | |
| Investing activities: | | | | | |
| Purchases of property, plant and equipment | | (26,351) | (26,281) | | |
| Purchases of marketable securities | | (19,531) | (47,172) | | |
| Proceeds from redemption and sales of marketable securities | | 23,137 | 29,453 | | |
| Proceeds from disposal of property and equipment | | 878 | 1,492 | | |
| Other | | (207) | 86 | | |
| Net cash used in investing activities | · | (22,074) | (42,422) | | |
| Financing activities: | | | | | |
| Proceeds from issuance of stock | | 5,926 | 2,960 | | |
| Payments on capitalized lease obligations | | (167) | (188) | | |
| Payment of cash dividend | | (17,825) | (16,239) | | |
| Net cash used in financing activities | | (12,066) | (13,467) | | |
| Effect of exchange rate on cash and cash equivalents | | (943) | (1,765) | | |
| Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents | | 15,176 | (15,757) | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period | | 111,479 | 90,962 | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents at end of period | \$ | 126,655 \$ | | | |
| caon and caon equitating at the of period | | <u> </u> | | | |

| | | Three months ended | | | Six months ended | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | March 30, 2019 | | March 31, 2018 | | March 30, 2019 | | March 31, 2018 | |
| Sales to External Customers: | | | | | | | | |
| Food Service Soft pretzels | \$ | 49,812 | \$ | 48,748 | \$ | 98,803 | \$ | 97,769 |
| Frozen juices and ices | Φ | 8,947 | Ψ | 9,439 | Φ | 16,474 | Ψ | 16,623 |
| Churros | | 15,770 | | 15,272 | | 30,905 | | 29,864 |
| Handhelds | | 7,987 | | 9,331 | | 16,789 | | 20,693 |
| Bakery | | 90,764 | | 90,813 | | 192,873 | | 185,746 |
| Other | | 8,145 | | 5,862 | | 13,471 | | 11,034 |
| Total Food Service | \$ | 181,425 | \$ | 179,465 | \$ | 369,315 | \$ | 361,729 |
| Retail Supermarket | | | | | | | | |
| Soft pretzels | \$ | 10,829 | \$ | 10,081 | \$ | 21,015 | \$ | 20,593 |
| Frozen juices and ices | | 14,668 | | 15,438 | | 25,664 | | 25,165 |
| Handhelds | | 2,479 | | 2,763 | | 5,047 | | 5,789 |
| Coupon redemption | | (507) | | (618) | | (1,201) | | (1,369) |
| Other | | 340 | | 420 | | 699 | | 982 |
| Total Retail Supermarket | \$ | 27,809 | \$ | 28,084 | \$ | 51,224 | \$ | 51,160 |
| Frozen Beverages | | | | | | | | |
| Beverages | \$ | 33,603 | \$ | | \$ | 65,039 | \$ | 66,270 |
| Repair and maintenance service | | 20,034 | | 19,308 | | 39,777 | | 38,312 |
| Machines revenue | | 13,161 | | 5,854 | | 22,065 | | 13,327 |
| Other | | 270 | | 263 | | 494 | | 513 |
| Total Frozen Beverages | \$ | 67,068 | \$ | 58,552 | \$ | 127,375 | \$ | 118,422 |
| Consolidated Sales | \$ | 276,302 | \$ | 266,101 | \$ | 547,914 | \$ | 531,311 |
| Depreciation and Amortization: | | | | | | | | |
| Food Service | \$ | 6,616 | \$ | 6,041 | \$ | 12,938 | \$ | 13,139 |
| Retail Supermarket | | 320 | | 358 | | 655 | | 648 |
| Frozen Beverages | | 5,066 | | 4,754 | | 10,044 | | 9,352 |
| Total Depreciation and Amortization | \$ | 12,002 | \$ | 11,153 | \$ | 23,637 | \$ | 23,139 |
| Operating Income : | | | | | | | | |
| Food Service | \$ | 19,580 | \$ | 18,535 | \$ | 38,041 | \$ | 34,435 |
| Retail Supermarket | | 2,641 | | 2,534 | | 4,088 | | 5,092 |
| Frozen Beverages | Φ. | 2,550 | ф. | 2,472 | φ. | 4,724 | Φ. | 5,242 |
| Total Operating Income | \$ | 24,771 | \$ | 23,541 | \$ | 46,853 | \$ | 44,769 |
| Capital Expenditures: | | | | | | | | |
| Food Service | \$ | 8,403 | \$ | 6,259 | \$ | 14,681 | \$ | 15,700 |
| Retail Supermarket | | 581 | | 103 | | 1,133 | | 103 |
| Frozen Beverages | | 5,530 | | 5,296 | | 10,537 | | 10,478 |
| Total Capital Expenditures | \$ | 14,514 | \$ | 11,658 | \$ | 26,351 | \$ | 26,281 |
| Assets: | | | | | | | | |
| Food Service | \$ | 705,724 | \$ | 652,850 | \$ | 705,724 | \$ | 652,850 |
| | | 23,338 | | 23,783 | | 23,338 | | 23,783 |
| Retail Supermarket | | | | | | | | |
| | \$ | 223,650 952,712 | \$ | 210,916 887,549 | \$ | 223,650 952,712 | \$ | 210,916 887,549 |

RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Net sales increased \$10,201,000 or 4% to 276,302,000 for the three months and \$16,603,000 or 3% to \$547,914,000 for the six months ended March 30, 2019 compared to the three and six months ended March 31, 2018, respectively.

FOOD SERVICE

Sales to food service customers increased \$1,960,000 or 1% in the second quarter to \$181,425,000 and increased \$7,586,000 or 2% to \$369,315,000 for the six months. Soft pretzel sales to the food service market increased 2% to \$49,812,000 in the three months and 1% to \$98,803,000 in the six months due primarily to higher sales to school foodservice and throughout our customer base but with lower sales to restaurant chains in the second quarter.

Frozen juices and ices sales decreased 5% to \$8,947,000 in the three months and 1% to \$16,474,000 in the six months as sales to school food service were lower.

Churro sales to food service customers were up 3% in the quarter to \$15,770,000 and up 3% to \$30,905,000 in the six months with sales increases and decreases across our customer base.

Sales of bakery products were essentially unchanged at \$90,764,000 in the second quarter and increased \$7,127,000 or 4% to \$192,873,000 for the six months. For the six months, sales to one co-pack customer accounted for approximately 55% of the sales increase and increased sales to warehouse club stores, schools and mass merchandising chains accounted for the balance of the sales increase.

Sales of handhelds decreased \$1,344,000 or 14% in the quarter and \$3,904,000 or 19% in the six months with the decrease primarily coming from lower sales to co-pack customers because of unsuccessful product launches. Sales of funnel cake increased \$2,185,000, or 39%, to \$7,732,000 in the quarter and \$2,351,000, or 23%, to \$12,692,000 in the six months due to sales to a quick service restaurant under a limited time offer program which ended in the second quarter.

Sales of new products in the first twelve months since their introduction were approximately \$2 million in this quarter and \$7 million in the six months. Price increases were approximately \$4 million for the quarter and \$7 million for the six months and net volume decreases were approximately \$2 million of sales in the quarter and volume was essentially unchanged in the six months.

Operating income in our Food Service segment increased from \$18,535,000 to \$19,580,000 in the quarter and increased from \$34,435,000 to \$38,041,000 in the six months. For the quarter, operating income increased primarily because of lower marketing and distribution expenses and increased pricing. For the six months, operating income improved primarily because of increased bakery sales, price increases and improved operations at several of our manufacturing facilities. Additionally, last year's first quarter had the burden of shutdown costs of our Chambersburg, PA production facility. However, this year's six months was impacted by approximately \$1.4 million of higher distribution expenses primarily due to higher freight rates which increased with the implementation of the electronic logging device mandate in January 2018. Additionally, lower sales of our MARY B's biscuits and related costs due to our recall in January 2018 impacted our operating income by approximately \$500,000 in the first quarter.

RETAIL SUPERMARKETS

Sales of products to retail supermarkets decreased \$275,000 or 1% to \$27,809,000 in the second quarter and were essentially unchanged at \$51,224,000 for the six months. Soft pretzel sales for the second quarter were up 7% to \$10,829,000 and up 2% to \$21,015,000 for the six months due to increased sales of AUNTIE ANNE'S pretzels. Sales of frozen juices and ices decreased \$770,000 or 5% to \$14,668,000 in the second quarter and increased \$499,000 or 2% in the six months. Handheld sales to retail supermarket customers decreased 10% to \$2,479,000 in the quarter and 13% to \$5,047,000 in the six months as the sales of this product line continue their long term decline.

Sales of new products in the second quarter were approximately \$200,000 and were approximately \$500,000 for the six months. Price increases provided about \$300,000 of sales in the quarter and \$900,000 of sales in the six months and net volume decreased by about \$600,000 for the quarter and \$900,000 for the six months.

Operating income in our Retail Supermarkets segment was \$2,641,000 in this year's second quarter compared to \$2,534,000 in last year's quarter, a 4% increase and decreased to \$4,088,000 in this year's six months compared to \$5,092,000 in last year's six months. For the quarter, operating income benefited from slightly lower marketing and distribution costs and increased pricing. For the six months, increased product and distribution costs combined with the lack of a sales increase were the primary drivers of the decrease in operating income.

FROZEN BEVERAGES

Frozen beverage and related product sales increased 15% to \$67,068,000 in the second quarter and increased 8% to \$127,375,000 in the six months. Beverage related sales were up 1% to \$33,603,000 in the quarter but down 2% to \$65,039,000 in the six months. Six months' sales were down primarily because last year's first quarter sales were up a very strong 21% compared to the prior year. Gallon sales were unchanged for the three months. Service revenue increased 4% to \$20,034,000 in the second quarter and increased 4% to \$39,777,000 in the six months with sales increases and decreases spread throughout our customer base.

Machines revenue (primarily sales of frozen beverage machines) were \$13,161,000, an increase of \$7,307,000 in the quarter and \$22,065,000, an increase of \$8,738,000 in the six months. Operating income in our Frozen Beverage segment increased to \$2,550,000 in this quarter as a result of higher service and machines revenue but down \$518,000 in the six months as a result of lower beverage sales and generally higher costs.

CONSOLIDATED

Gross profit as a percentage of sales was 28.68% in the second quarter and 29.04% last year. Gross profit as a percentage of sales was 28.49% in the six month period this year and 28.34% last year. Gross profit percentage decreased in the second quarter because of the increase in lower margin machines revenue in our frozen beverages segment. Gross profit percentage for the six months increased because of improved operations at several of our manufacturing facilities, price increases and because last year had the burden of shutting down our Chambersburg, PA production facility and moving its production to other facilities.

Total operating expenses increased \$740,000 in the second quarter and as a percentage of sales decreased to 19.7% from 20.2% last year. For the first half, operating expenses increased \$3,470,000 and as a percentage of sales increased to 20.0% from 19.9% last year. Marketing expenses decreased to 7.9% of sales in this year's quarter from 8.5% last year and were 7.9% in the six months compared to 8.3% of sales in last year's six months primarily because of reduced spending across all of our segments. Distribution expenses were 8.0% of sales in the second quarter and 8.4% of sales in last year's quarter and were 8.4% in this year's six months compared to 8.2% of sales in last year's six months. Distribution expenses increased as a percentage of sales for the six months primarily because of increased freight rates which increased with the implementation of the electronic logging device mandate in January 2018. Our second quarter benefitted from a slight moderation in rates compared to last year. Administrative expenses were 3.6% of sales in the second quarter compared to 3.4% of sales last year in the second quarter and were 3.5% in this year's six months compared to 3.5% of sales in last year's six months.

Operating income increased \$1,230,000 or 5% to \$24,771,000 in the three months and increased \$2,084,000 or 5% to \$46,853,000 in the first six months as a result of the aforementioned items.

Investment income increased by \$1,289,000 and \$840,000 in the second quarter and six months, respectively, resulting from higher amounts invested and higher interest rates. Additionally, the second quarter benefitted from recognized unrealized gains of \$760,000 and the six months were impacted by \$267,000 of recognized unrealized losses.

Other income for last year's six months includes a \$520,000 gain on a sale of property.

Net earnings increased \$2,521,000, or 14%, in the current three month period to \$20,354,000 and were \$37,880,000 for the six month period this year compared to \$54,082,000 for the six month period last year.

Net earnings for last year's six months benefited from a \$20.9 million gain, or \$1.11 per diluted share, on the remeasurement of deferred tax liabilities which was partially offset by a \$1.2 million, or \$.06 per diluted share, provision for the one time repatriation tax, both of which resulted from the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act enacted in December 2017. Excluding the deferred tax gain and the one time repatriation tax, our effective tax rate was 28.7% in last year's six months. Net earnings in this year's six months benefitted by a reduction of approximately \$900,000 in tax as the provision for the one time repatriation tax was reduced as the amount recorded last year was an estimate. Excluding the reduction in the provision for the one time repatriation tax, our effective tax rate was 27.0% in this year's six months. Our effective tax rate for the second quarter this year was 26.1% and 28.7% for last year's second quarter, as this year benefitted from tax credits on returns filed this quarter and a lower federal tax rate.

There are many factors which can impact our net earnings from year to year and in the long run, among which are the supply and cost of raw materials and labor, insurance costs, factors impacting sales as noted above, the continuing consolidation of our customers, our ability to manage our manufacturing, marketing and distribution activities, our ability to make and integrate acquisitions and changes in tax laws and interest rates.

The forward-looking statements contained herein are subject to certain risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those projected in the forward-looking statements. Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which reflect management's analysis only as of the date hereof. The Company undertakes no obligation to publicly revise or update these forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances that arise after the date hereof.