UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, DC 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) May 2, 2018

SMART & FINAL STORES, INC.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

Delaware (State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation)

001-36626 (Commission File Number)

80-0862253 (IRS Employer Identification No.)

600 Citadel Drive, Commerce, CA (Address of Principal Executive Offices)

90040 (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code (323) 869-7500

N/A

(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):

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

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§240.12b-2 of this chapter).

Emerging growth company o

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act. 0

Item 2.02 Results of Operations and Financial Condition.

On May 2, 2018, Smart & Final Stores, Inc. issued a press release announcing its financial results for the quarter ended March 25, 2018. The text of the press release is included as Exhibit 99.1 to this Form 8-K.

The information disclosed under this Item 2.02, including Exhibit 99.1 hereto, is being furnished and shall not be deemed "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and shall not be deemed incorporated by reference into any filing made under the Securities Act of 1933, except as expressly set forth by specific reference in such filing.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits:

Exhibit Number Description

99.1 Press Release, dated May 2, 2018

Exhibit Index

Exhibit Number Description

99.1 Press Release, dated May 2, 2018

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.

SMART & FINAL STORES, INC.

Date: May 2, 2018

By: /s/ Richard N. Phegley

Name: Richard N. Phegley

Title: Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

Exhibit 99.1

Smart&Final.

Smart & Final Stores, Inc. Reports First Quarter 2018 Financial Results

COMMERCE, Calif. (May 2, 2018) – Smart & Final Stores, Inc. (the "Company") (NYSE:SFS), the value-oriented food and everyday staples retailer, today reported financial results for the fiscal first quarter ended March 25, 2018.

First Quarter Highlights:

- · Net sales increased 5.1% to \$1,016.2 million with a comparable store sales increase of 1.2%
- · Gross margin increased 9.9%
- · Adjusted EBITDA increased 17.3% to \$28.6 million
- · Net loss of \$7.1 million or \$0.10 per share
- Adjusted net loss of \$2.8 million or \$0.04 per share
- Expanded Smart & Final banner online channels by adding the Shop Smart & Final mobile app
- · Launching transition of Cash & Carry banner to "Smart Foodservice Warehouse Stores"

"There are a number of performance highlights to note in the quarter, including a year-over-year net sales increase of 5.1% and over 17% growth in adjusted EBITDA" said David Hirz, president and chief executive officer. "Despite continuing promotional activity within the grocery landscape, we were able to improve our gross margin rate driven by maturing new stores, merchandising initiatives aimed at both household and business customers, and the expansion of our marketing channels. We've also been successfully growing our business customer sales, a key differentiator for us in the market."

Mr. Hirz continued, "E-commerce sales increased over 85%, off a small base, and we have a robust plan for growing our e-commerce capabilities in both banners in 2018, with first quarter accomplishments including the launch of our

Shop Smart & Final mobile app. We expect the development of our e-commerce and related offerings will support customer traffic, through both customer acquisition and retention, as adoption of this channel accelerates. Finally, we're excited to announce the transition of the Cash & Carry Smart Foodservice banner to "Smart Foodservice Warehouse Stores", which we believe better supports our brand messaging and value proposition, and reflects how our customers view us in the market."

In order to aid understanding of the Company's business performance, it has presented results in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States ("GAAP") and has also presented EBITDA, adjusted EBITDA, adjusted net loss per share, and adjusted net loss per diluted share, which are non-GAAP measures that are explained and reconciled to the comparable GAAP measures in the tables included in this release. Where applicable, the results below are first presented on a GAAP basis and then on a non-GAAP adjusted basis.

Fiscal First Quarter 2018 Financial Results

Net sales were \$1,016.2 million in the 12-week quarter ended March 25, 2018, representing a 5.1% increase as compared to \$967.0 million for the same period of 2017. Net sales growth was driven by a 1.2% increase in comparable store sales and by the net sales contribution of new stores. Comparable store sales growth was comprised of a 2.9% increase in comparable average transaction size, partially offset by a 1.7% decrease in comparable transaction count.

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Net sales for Smart & Final banner stores were \$795.2 million, a 4.0% increase as compared to \$765.0 million for the same period of 2017. Comparable store sales growth for the Smart & Final banner was flat in the first quarter.

Net sales for Smart Foodservice Warehouse banner stores were \$221.0 million, a 9.4% increase as compared to \$202.0 million for the same period of 2017. Comparable store sales growth for the Smart Foodservice Warehouse banner was 5.8% in the first quarter.

Gross margin was \$146.3 million, a 9.9% increase as compared to \$133.1 million in the first quarter of 2017. Gross margin rate was 14.4% as compared to 13.8% for the same period of 2017. Gross margin rate in the quarter was supported by our strategic sourcing, merchandising and pricing initiatives.

Operating and administrative expenses were \$147.4 million, an 8.7% increase as compared to \$135.7 million for the same period of 2017. This increase was related to expenses associated with the effect of higher minimum wages, the 15 new stores that opened following the first quarter of 2017 through the end of the first quarter of 2018 and related support costs.

Net loss was \$7.1 million, or \$0.10 per share, as compared to a net loss of \$4.6 million, or \$0.06 per share, for the same period of 2017.

Adjusted net loss was \$2.8 million, or \$0.04 per share, as compared to an adjusted net loss of \$1.5 million, or \$0.02 per share, for the same period of 2017.

Adjusted EBITDA was \$28.6 million, an increase of 17.3% as compared to \$24.4 million for the same period of 2017.

Growth and Development

During the fiscal first quarter of 2018, the Company did not open any new stores. Similar to 2017, store openings in 2018 are scheduled for the latter half of the year. As of March 25, 2018, the Company operated a total of 323 stores, including 194 Smart & Final Extra! stores, 66 legacy format Smart & Final stores and 63 Cash & Carry Smart Foodservice stores.

Leverage and Liquidity

As of March 25, 2018, the Company's debt, net of debt issuance costs, was \$687.8 million and cash and cash equivalents were \$55.8 million.

For the twelve weeks ended March 25, 2018, the Company generated cash from operations of \$18.2 million and

Outlook

The Company is maintaining the previously issued guidance for the full year ending December 30, 2018:

Net sales growth	4.0% - 5.0%
Comparable store sales growth	1.0% - 2.0%
Unit growth (new stores)	3-5 Smart & Final Extra! stores
	3-5 Smart Foodservice Warehouse stores
Relocations of existing stores to Extra! format	2-3 Smart & Final stores
Expansions or conversions of legacy stores to Extra!	1-2 Smart & Final stores
format	
Adjusted EBITDA	\$180 - \$190 million
Adjusted net income	\$31 - \$35 million
Adjusted diluted EPS	\$0.42 - \$0.47
Capital expenditures (net)	\$80 - \$90 million
Fully diluted weighted average shares	74 to 75 million

The above guidance includes certain non-GAAP financial measures (namely adjusted EBITDA, adjusted net income and adjusted net income per diluted share), which exclude certain costs and non-cash costs and provide investors with additional financial measures of the expected operating performance of the Company's business. The primary factors in reconciling these non-GAAP financial measures to comparable GAAP measures include the following: pre-opening costs associated with new stores of approximately \$3.8 million, non-cash rent related to stores of approximately \$2.9 million, share-based compensation expense of approximately \$15.5 million, and \$3.9 million of store closure expenses. The other amounts needed to reconcile these non-GAAP financial measures to comparable GAAP measures cannot be quantified and are not available without an unreasonable effort.

Fiscal First Quarter 2018 Conference Call

The Company will host a conference call today at 2:00 p.m. Pacific Time / 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time to discuss its fiscal first quarter 2018 financial results. To participate in the call, please dial (877) 407-0784 (U.S.) or (201) 689-8560 (International) ten minutes prior to the start time. The conference call can also be accessed on the "For Investors" section of the Company's web site at www.smartandfinal.com.

For those unable to participate during the live broadcast, a telephonic replay of the call will also be available beginning today at approximately 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, by dialing (844) 512-2921 (U.S.) or (412) 317-6671 (International) and entering the replay pin number: 13678813. The telephonic replay will be available until 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time, May 16, 2018.

About Smart & Final

Smart & Final Stores, Inc. (NYSE: SFS), is a value-oriented food and everyday staples retailer, headquartered in Commerce (near Los Angeles), California. The Company offers quality products in a variety of sizes, saving household, nonprofit and business customers time and money. As of March 25, 2018, the Company operated 323 grocery and foodservice stores under the "Smart & Final," "Smart & Final Extra!" and "Smart Foodservice Warehouse Stores" banners in California, Oregon, Washington, Arizona, Nevada, Idaho, Montana and Utah, with an additional 15 stores in Northwestern Mexico operated through a joint venture. In business for over 146 years, the Company remains committed to giving back to local communities through employee volunteer opportunities and Company donations to local nonprofits.

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Forward-Looking Statements

Certain statements contained in this release that are not historical information contain forward-looking statements. The forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties and actual results may differ materially from those

projected or implied. Further, certain forward-looking statements are based on assumptions of future events which may not prove to be accurate. These forward-looking statements can be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology, including the terms "may," "should," "expects," "plans," "anticipates," "could," "intends," "target," "projects," "contemplates," "believes," "estimates," "predicts," "potential" or "continue" or, in each case, their negative, or other variations or comparable terminology. The Company derives many of its forward-looking statements from its operating budgets and forecasts, which are based upon many detailed assumptions. While the Company believes that its assumptions are reasonable, it is difficult to predict the impact of known factors and, of course, it is impossible to anticipate all factors that could affect actual results. These factors are discussed in the special note concerning "Forward-Looking Statements," "Risk Factors," "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations," and "Business" sections and elsewhere in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

You should keep in mind that any forward-looking statement made by the Company herein, or elsewhere, speaks only as of the date on which made. New risks and uncertainties come up from time to time, and it is impossible for the Company to predict these events or how they may affect it. The Company has no obligation to update any forward-looking statements after the date hereof, except as required by federal securities laws.

INVESTOR CONTACTS:

Laura Bainbridge / Andrew Greenebaum Addo Investor Relations O: 310.829.5400 investors@smartandfinal.com

MEDIA CONTACT: press@smartandfinal.com

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Smart & Final Stores, Inc. and Subsidiaries Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations (Unaudited)

(In Thousands, Except Share and Per Share Amounts)

	Twelve Weeks Ende			
	N	March 25, 2018	Ma	arch 26, 2017
Net sales Cost of sales, buying and occupancy	\$	1,016,237 869,975	\$	967,017 833,906
Gross margin		146,262		133,111
Operating and administrative expenses		147,430		135,674
Loss from operations		(1,168)		(2,563)
Interest expense, net		9,251		8,174
Equity in earnings of joint venture		577		167
Loss before income taxes		(9,842)		(10,570)
Income tax benefit		2,748		5,978
Net loss	\$	(7,094)	\$	(4,592)
Net loss per share:				
Basic	\$ \$	(0.10)	\$	(0.06)
Diluted	\$	(0.10)	\$	(0.06)
Weighted average shares outstanding:				
Basic		72,231,171		72,287,891
Diluted		72,231,171		72,287,891
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Smart & Final Stores, Inc. and Subsidiaries Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets

(In Thousands, Except Share and Per Share Amounts)

	Ma	rch 25, 2018	Dece	mber 31, 2017
	(Unaudited)		
Assets				
Current assets:	_			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	55,790	\$	71,671
Accounts receivable, less allowances of \$175 and \$177 at		20.565		22.010
March 25, 2018 and December 31, 2017, respectively		29,567		33,019
Inventories		287,740		289,712
Prepaid expenses and other current assets		47,926		54,241
Total current assets		421,023		448,643
Property, plant, and equipment:				
Land		10,044		10,076
Buildings and improvements		54,771		53,965
Leasehold improvements		350,602		346,181
Fixtures and equipment		428,539		421,912
Construction in progress		15,428		8,242
		859,384		840,376
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization		359,988		338,149
•		499,396		502,227
Capitalized software, net of accumulated amortization of \$17,991 and \$17,325 at March 25, 2018 and December 31,				
2017, respectively		25,559		21,984
Other intangible assets, net		360,927		362,536
Goodwill		385,918		385,918
Equity investment in joint venture		15,796		15,380
Other assets		73,456		73,249
Total assets	\$	1,782,075	\$	1,809,937
			-	
Liabilities and stockholders' equity				
Current liabilities:	•	222 (22	Φ.	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •
Accounts payable	\$	220,690	\$	245,009
Accrued salaries and wages		31,076		36,216
Accrued expenses		107,801		100,639
Current portion of debt, less debt issuance costs		69,613		81,512
Total current liabilities		429,180		463,376
Long-term debt, less debt issuance costs		618,194		617,867
Deferred income taxes		37,793		38,095
Postretirement and postemployment benefits		127,574		127,649
Other long-term liabilities		170,235		159,904
Commitments and contingencies				
Stockholders' equity:				
Preferred stock, \$0.001 par value; Authorized shares – 10,000,000 Issued and outstanding shares – none Common stock, \$0.001 par value;		_		-
Authorized shares – 340,000,000 Issued and outstanding shares - 74,212,215 and 74,120,113				
at March 25, 2018 and December 31, 2017, respectively		74		74
Additional paid-in capital		509,654		506,098
para in capitai		207,024		200,070

Retained deficit	(85,254)	(78,160)
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(25,375)	(24,966)
Total stockholders' equity	 399,099	403,046
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$ 1,782,075	\$ 1,809,937

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Smart & Final Stores, Inc. and Subsidiaries Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows (Unaudited) (In Thousands)

	Twelve We		eks Ended	
	March 25, 2018		Marcl	h 26, 2017
Operating activities				
Net loss	\$	(7,094)	\$	(4,592
Adjustments to reconcile net loss to net cash provided by	*	(,,,,,,	*	()
operating activities:				
Depreciation		13,880		12,783
Amortization		9,412		8,900
Amortization of debt discount and debt issuance costs		459		445
Share-based compensation		3,285		1,814
Deferred income taxes		(257)		284
Equity in earnings of joint venture		(577)		(167
(Gain) loss on disposal of property, plant, and equipment		(32)		21
Asset impairment		1,425		325
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		1,423		323
Accounts receivable, net		3,452		2,663
Inventories		1,972		12,020
Prepaid expenses and other assets		7,520		(11,524
Accounts payable		(24,319)		(8,453
Accrued salaries and wages		(5,140)		(487)
Other accrued liabilities		14,209		7,279
Net cash provided by operating activities		18,195		21,311
Investing activities		(2.5.4.50)		(2.4.7-0
Purchases of property, plant, and equipment		(25,478)		(24,570
Proceeds from disposal of property, plant, and equipment		33		1,785
Investment in capitalized software		(3,523)		(4,524)
Other		(19)		(55
Net cash used in investing activities		(28,987)		(27,364)
Financing activities				
Proceeds from exercise of stock options		336		2,335
Payment of minimum withholding taxes on net share settlement of share-based				
compensation awards		(65)		(106
Fees paid in conjunction with debt financing		(31)		(31
Borrowings on bank line of credit		27,000		28,000
Payments on bank line of credit		(39,000)		(22,000
Cash received from landlord related to financing lease obligations		6,671		-
Stock repurchases				(5,995
Net cash (used in) provided by financing activities		(5,089)		2,203
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents		(15,881)		(3,850
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period		71,671		54,235
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$	55,790	\$	50,385
Cash paid during the period for:				
Interest	\$	1,116	\$	2,340
Non-cash investing and financing activities				
Non-cash investing and financing activities Software development costs incurred but not paid	\$	2,115	\$	344

Smart & Final Stores, Inc. and Subsidiaries Segment Reporting (In Thousands)

		Smart Foodservice	Corporate /	
	Smart & Final	Warehouse	Other	Consolidated
Twelve Weeks Ended March 25, 2018				
Net sales	\$ 795,192	\$ 221,045	\$ -	\$ 1,016,237
Cost of sales, distribution and store occupancy	678,615	189,471	1,889	869,975
Operating and administrative expenses	109,569	17,796	20,065	147,430
Income (loss) from operations	\$ 7,008	\$ 13,778	\$ (21,954)	\$ (1,168)
Capital expenditures	\$ 23,859	\$ 1,270	\$ 3,872	\$ 29,001
Twelve Weeks Ended March 26, 2017				
Net sales	\$ 764,969	\$ 202,048	\$ -	\$ 967,017
Cost of sales, distribution and store occupancy	656,792	175,133	1,981	833,906
Operating and administrative expenses	103,906	16,166	15,602	135,674
Income (loss) from operations	\$ 4,271	\$ 10,749	\$ (17,583)	\$ (2,563)
Capital expenditures	\$ 20,974	\$ 2,873	\$ 5,247	\$ 29,094

Non-GAAP Financial Measures

To supplement the Company's financial information presented in accordance with GAAP, the Company uses certain non-GAAP financial measures (namely EBITDA and adjusted EBITDA, adjusted net income, adjusted net income per share, and adjusted net income per diluted share) to evaluate our operating and financial performance and to compare such performance to that of prior periods. We also use these non-GAAP financial measures in making operational and financial decisions and in establishing operational goals. We believe that providing these non-GAAP financial measures to investors, as a supplement to GAAP financial measures, helps investors to (i) evaluate our operating and financial performance and future prospects, (ii) compare financial results across accounting periods, (iii) better understand the long-term performance of our core business and (iv) evaluate trends in our business, all consistent with how management evaluates such performance and movements. The Company defines EBITDA as net income (loss) before depreciation and amortization, interest expense and provision (benefit) for income tax, and adjusted EBITDA as EBITDA adjusted for the items set forth in the table below. The Company defines adjusted net income (loss) as net income (loss) adjusted for the items set forth in the table below. The Company defines adjusted net income (loss) per share as adjusted net income (loss) divided by the weighted average basic shares outstanding. The Company defines adjusted net income (loss) per diluted share as adjusted net income (loss) divided by the weighted average diluted shares outstanding.

Use of these non-GAAP measures may differ from similar measures reported by other companies. Each of these non-GAAP measures has its limitations as an analytical tool, and you should not consider them in isolation or as a substitute for analysis of the Company's results as reported under GAAP.

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The following tables present reconciliations of net loss to EBITDA, adjusted EBITDA and adjusted net loss, and net loss per share to adjusted net income per share and adjusted net loss per diluted share, for the twelve-week period ended March 25, 2018.

Smart & Final Stores, Inc. and Subsidiaries
Reconciliation of Net Loss to Non-GAAP Adjusted Net Loss
(Unaudited)
(In Thousands, Except Share and Per Share Amounts)

	Ended	March 25,	Ended	we Weeks March 26,
	2	018		2017
Net loss	\$	(7,094)	\$	(4,592)
Income tax benefit		(2,748)		(5,978)
Loss before income taxes		(9,842)		(10,570)

Adjustments to net loss					
Net loss from closed stores and exit costs (a)	91				
Loss from asset dispositions (b)	1,418				
Share-based compensation expense (c)		3,285		1,815	
Non-cash rent (d)		1,203		1,555	
Pre-opening costs (e)		(69)		977	
Other items (f)		-		56	
Adjusted income tax benefit		1,092		3,935	
Adjusted net loss	\$	(2,822)	\$	(1,514)	
Adjusted Net Loss Per Share					
Net loss per share - basic	\$	(0.10)	\$	(0.06)	
Per share impact of net loss adjustments		0.06		0.04	
Adjusted net loss per share - basic	\$	(0.04)	\$	(0.02)	
Net loss per share - diluted	\$	(0.10)	\$	(0.06)	
Per share impact of net loss adjustments		0.06		0.04	
Adjusted net loss per share - diluted	\$	(0.04)	\$	(0.02)	
Weighted average shares - basic	7	2,231,171	7	2,287,891	
Weighted average shares - diluted		2,231,171		2,287,891	
				· /	
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Smart & Final Stores, Inc. and Subsidiaries Reconciliation of EBITDA to Adjusted EBITDA (Unaudited) (In Thousands)

	Twelve Weeks Ended March 25, 2018	Twelve Weeks Ended March 26, 2017	
Net loss	\$ (7,094)	\$ (4,592)	
Depreciation and amortization	23,292	21,683	
Interest expense, net	9,251	8,174	
Income tax benefit	(2,748)	(5,978)	
EBITDA	22,701	19,287	
Adjustments to EBITDA			
Net loss from closed stores and exit costs (a)	91	390	
Loss from asset dispositions (b)	1,418	328	
Share-based compensation expense (c)	3,285	1,815	
Non-cash rent (d)	1,203	1,555	
Pre-opening costs (e)	(69)	977	
Other items (f)		56_	
Adjusted EBITDA	\$ 28,629	\$ 24,408	

- (a) Represents costs associated with store closure and exit costs.
- (b) Represents non-cash loss associated with asset dispositions and impairment charges.
- (c) Represents expenses associated with the Company's equity-based incentive award program.
- (d) Represents non-cash component of recognized rent expense.
- (e) Represents new store and relocation opening costs consisting primarily of rent, utilities, distribution, store labor and advertising.
- (f) Represents severance costs in the twelve week fiscal quarter ended March 26, 2017.

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Document Format Files

Sec	1	Description	Document	Туре		Size
1	8-K		<u>a18-8641_38k.htm</u>	8-K	24549	
2	⊏V 00 1		<u>a18-</u>	EV 00 1	272202	