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MONARCH CASINO & RESORT INC

Form 8-K

October 31, 2003

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

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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): October 29, 2003

MONARCH CASINO & RESORT, INC.  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

NEVADA (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)	0-22088 (Commission File Number)	88-0300760 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)
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1175 W. Moana Lane, Suite 200 Reno, NEVADA (Address of Principal Executive Offices)	89509 (Zip Code)
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(775)825-3355

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(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

NOT APPLICABLE

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(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

ITEM 7. Financial Statements and Exhibits

(c) Exhibits

99.03 Text of press release dated October 29, 2003.

ITEM 12. Disclosure of Results of Operations and Financial Condition

On October 29, 2003, Monarch Casino & Resort, Inc. (the "Company") issued a press release announcing the Company's earnings for the third quarter ended September 30, 2003. The earnings press release is attached as Exhibit 99.03 to this Form 8-K.

The earnings release contains non-GAAP financial measures. For purposes of regulation G, a non-GAAP financial measure is a numerical measure of a registrant's historical or future financial performance, financial position or

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cash flows that excludes amounts, or is subject to adjustments that have the effect of excluding amounts, that are included in the most directly comparable measure calculated and presented in accordance with GAAP in the Statement of Income, Balance Sheet or Statement of Cash Flows (or equivalent statements) of the issuer, or includes amounts, or is subject to adjustments that have the effect of including amounts, that are excluded from the most directly comparable measure so calculated and presented. In this regard, GAAP refers to generally accepted accounting principles in the United States. Pursuant to the requirements of Regulation G, the Company has provided reconciliations within the earnings release of the non-GAAP financial measures to the most directly comparable financial measures.

EBITDA is presented in the earnings release because management believes that it is of interest to its investors and is frequently used by analysts and others in the evaluation of companies in our industry.

"EBITDA" consists of net income plus provision for income taxes, other expenses (income) and depreciation and amortization. EBITDA should not be construed as an alternative to operating income (as determined in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles) as an indicator of the Company's operating performance, or as an alternative to cash flows from operating activities (as determined in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles) as a measure of liquidity. This item enables comparison of the Company's performance with the performance of other companies that report EBITDA, although some companies do not calculate this measure in the same manner and therefore, the measure as presented, may not be comparable to similarly titled measures presented by other companies.

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SIGNATURE

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

MONARCH CASINO & RESORT, INC.  
(Registrant)

Date: October 30, 2003

By: /s/ Ben Farahi

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Name: Ben Farahi  
Title: Chief Financial Officer,  
Treasurer and Secretary

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Exhibit 99.03

PRESS RELEASE

MONARCH CASINO & RESORT, INC. ACHIEVES RECORD REVENUES  
AND EARNINGS FOR THIRD QUARTER ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2003

RENO, NV-October 29, 2003- Monarch Casino & Resort, Inc. (Nasdaq: MCRI) (the "Company") today announced record net income, earnings per share, casino revenues and net revenues for the third quarter ended September 30, 2003. Net income for the Company increased 5.7% to \$3,665,814, or \$0.39 per share (diluted), for the third quarter ended September 30, 2003, compared to \$3,467,460, or \$0.36 per share (diluted), for the third quarter ended September 30, 2002. The Company also reported casino revenues of \$19,893,383 for the quarter, an increase of 4.8% over the \$18,979,642 in the third quarter of 2002. The increase in casino revenues was partially attributable to an increase in slot machine win, as well as improved Keno and poker room revenues. Net revenues reached record highs for the 2003 third quarter, increasing 2.6% over last year's third quarter. Contributing to the record net revenues were increases in food and beverage (3.6%) and other (18.8%) revenue centers over the third quarter of 2002. Hotel revenues suffered a slight decrease of 1.3% in the third quarter ended September 30, 2003 as compared to the third quarter ended September 30, 2002. EBITDA (1), meanwhile, remained relatively unchanged

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in the third quarter ended September 30, 2003 as compared to the third quarter ended September 30, 2002, declining \$36,376 from \$8,834,010 in the 2002 third quarter to \$8,797,634 in the 2003 third quarter.

John Farahi, Co-chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Monarch commented on the results: "Once again, we achieved record numbers despite continued tightness in the Reno market. This, I believe, speaks for the quality and location of our product as well as the strength of our management staff and the friendliness of our employees. We also continued our aggressive approach in reducing our debt load: we payed down our debt by \$4.8 million during the third quarter of 2003, and by \$11.9 million since December 31, 2002. Our record earnings were driven by a 35% reduction in interest and stockholder guarantee fee expenses over last year's third quarter. Our operating income was flat in the third quarter amid tightness in the local market and increased gaming taxes. This increase in the gaming tax rate took effect August 1, 2003, and had a \$138 thousand impact on our bottom line." Mr. Farahi added, "we could not have achieved our results if not for the strong efforts of the entire Atlantis team and the continued loyalty of our guests."

Monarch Casino & Resort, Inc., through its wholly-owned subsidiary, owns and operates the tropically-themed Atlantis Casino Resort in Reno, Nevada. The Atlantis is the closest hotel-casino to and is directly across the street from the Reno-Sparks Convention Center, which completed a \$105 million expansion and renovation in August 2002. The Atlantis is recognizable due to its Sky Terrace, a unique structure rising approximately 55 feet from street level and spanning 160 feet across the street with no intermediate support pillars. The Sky Terrace connects the Atlantis to a 16-acre parcel of land owned by the Company, that is compliant with all casino zoning requirements and is suitable and available for future expansion of the Atlantis facilities. It is currently being used by the Company as additional paved parking for the Atlantis. The existing Atlantis site offers almost 1,000 guest rooms in three contiguous high-rise hotel towers and a motor lodge. The tropically-themed

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Atlantis features approximately 51,000 square feet of high-energy casino space with 37 table games and approximately 1,500 slot and video poker machines, a sports book, Keno and a poker room, and offers a variety of dining choices in the form of nine high-quality food outlets.

This press release contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 which are subject to change, including, but not limited to, comments relating to (i) future operating performance, (ii) market share of the Company operations, (iii) the financial benefits that may result from future operations (iv) the and recent opening and impact on operations of the expanded convention center. The actual results may differ materially from those described in any forward-looking statements. Additional information concerning potential factors that could affect the Company's financial results are included in the Company's Securities and Exchange Commission filings, which are available on the Company's web site.

Contacts: Ben Farahi at (775) 825-3355 or [benfarahi@monarchcasino.com](mailto:benfarahi@monarchcasino.com)  
Karl G. Brokmann at (775) 825-3355 or [kbrokmann@monarchcasino.com](mailto:kbrokmann@monarchcasino.com)

For additional information including artist renditions and photographs,  
visit Monarch's web site at [monarchcasino.com](http://monarchcasino.com).

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Monarch Casino & Resort, Inc.  
Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2003	2002	2003	2002
	(unaudited)	(unaudited)	(unaudited)	(unaudited)
<b>Revenues</b>				
Casino.....	\$ 19,893,383	\$ 18,979,642	\$ 56,247,540	\$ 53,376,299
Food and beverage.....	9,146,124	8,826,254	26,093,733	25,202,895
Hotel.....	6,259,807	6,344,964	16,483,022	15,651,826
Other.....	1,169,165	984,037	3,040,978	2,753,073
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Gross revenues.....	36,468,479	35,134,897	101,865,273	96,984,093
Less promotional allowances.....	(5,021,786)	(4,483,316)	(14,178,582)	(12,907,439)
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Net revenues.....	31,446,693	30,651,581	87,686,691	84,076,654
	-----	-----	-----	-----
<b>Operating expenses</b>				
Casino.....	7,550,337	6,982,318	22,035,163	20,358,504
Food and beverage.....	4,530,680	4,642,013	13,129,591	13,186,634
Hotel.....	1,846,802	1,803,069	5,231,101	4,899,231
Other.....	357,879	329,748	971,121	947,676
Selling, general and administrative.....	8,363,361	8,060,423	24,478,855	22,462,330
Depreciation and amortization....	2,611,621	2,618,077	7,928,450	7,721,347
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Total operating expenses.....	25,260,680	24,435,648	73,774,281	69,575,722
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Income from operations.....	6,186,013	6,215,933	13,912,410	14,500,932
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Other expenses				
Interest expense.....	372,063	647,346	1,244,145	2,122,107
Stockholder guarantee fee expense	250,334	315,027	792,613	1,000,405
Other.....	-	-	-	225,000
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total other expenses.....	622,397	962,373	2,036,758	3,347,512
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Income before income taxes....	5,563,616	5,253,560	11,875,652	11,153,420
Provision for income taxes.....	1,897,802	1,786,100	4,040,802	3,848,710
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Net income.....	\$ 3,665,814	\$ 3,467,460	\$ 7,834,850	\$ 7,304,710
	=====	=====	=====	=====
Earnings per share of common stock				
Net income				
Basic.....	\$ 0.39	\$ 0.37	\$ 0.84	\$ 0.77
Diluted.....	\$ 0.39	\$ 0.36	\$ 0.83	\$ 0.77
Weighted average number of common shares and potential common shares outstanding				
Basic.....	9,339,567	9,468,880	9,379,446	9,452,279
Diluted.....	9,373,006	9,529,212	9,411,771	9,494,602

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Monarch Casino & Resort, Inc.  
Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets

	September 30, 2003	December 31, 2002
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	(Unaudited)	
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Cash.....	\$ 9,875,676	\$ 9,961,484
Receivables, net.....	2,607,884	2,724,726
Inventories.....	1,233,625	993,260
Prepaid expenses.....	2,538,101	2,138,084
Prepaid federal income taxes.....	278,278	176,321
Deferred income taxes.....	542,457	492,457
	-----	-----
Total current assets.....	17,076,021	16,310,011
	-----	-----
Property and equipment		
Land.....	10,339,530	10,339,530

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Land improvements.....	3,226,913	3,191,371
Buildings.....	78,955,538	78,955,538
Building improvements.....	6,304,642	6,262,903
Furniture, fixtures and equipment.....	59,839,989	58,086,570
	-----	-----
	158,666,612	156,835,912
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization..	(62,027,745)	(55,985,653)
	-----	-----
Net property and equipment.....	96,638,867	100,850,259
	-----	-----
Other assets, net.....	175,790	319,817
	-----	-----
Total assets.....	\$ 113,890,678	\$ 117,480,087
	=====	=====
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Current liabilities		
Current maturities of long-term debt.....	\$ 48,409,923	\$ 8,279,095
Accounts payable.....	5,883,950	6,227,124
Accrued expenses.....	5,643,688	6,146,440
Federal income taxes payable.....	1,947,800	-
	-----	-----
Total current liabilities.....	61,885,361	20,652,659
Long-term debt, less current maturities.....	-	52,000,000
Deferred income taxes.....	5,053,587	4,526,744
Commitments and contingencies		
Stockholders' equity		
Preferred stock, \$.01 par value, 10,000,000 shares authorized; none issued.....	-	-
Common stock, \$.01 par value, 30,000,000 shares authorized; 9,536,275 issued; 9,336,995 outstanding at 06/30/2003, 9,474,830 outstanding at 12/31/2002.....	95,363	95,363
Additional paid-in capital.....	17,432,635	17,381,517
Treasury stock, 199,280 shares at 06/30/2003, 61,445 shares at 12/31/2002, at cost.....	(1,437,614)	(202,692)
Retained earnings.....	30,861,346	23,026,496
	-----	-----
Total stockholders' equity.....	46,951,730	40,300,684
	-----	-----
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity...	\$ 113,890,678	\$ 117,480,087
	=====	=====

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Monarch Casino & Resort, Inc.  
Reconciliation of Net Income to EBITDA (1)

Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
2003 (unaudited)	2002 (unaudited)	2003 (unaudited)	2002 (unaudited)
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Net income.....	\$3,665,814	\$3,467,460	\$ 7,834,850	\$7,304,710
Adjustments:				
Provision for income taxes.....	1,897,802	1,786,100	4,040,802	3,848,710
Stock transaction expense.....	-	-	-	225,000
Interest expense.....	622,397	962,373	2,036,758	3,122,512
Depreciation and amortization....	2,611,621	2,618,077	7,928,450	7,721,347
	-----	-----	-----	-----
EBITDA (1)	\$8,797,634	\$8,834,010	\$21,840,860	\$22,222,279
	=====	=====	=====	=====

(1) "EBITDA" consists of net income plus provision for income taxes, other expenses (income) and depreciation and amortization. EBITDA should not be construed as an alternative to operating income (as determined in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles) as an indicator of the Company's operating performance, or as an alternative to cash flows from operating activities (as determined in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles) as a measure of liquidity. This item enables comparison of the Company's performance with the performance of other companies that report EBITDA, although some companies do not calculate this measure in the same manner and therefore, the measure as presented, may not be comparable to similarly titled measures presented by other companies.