## Board of Directors

Enrique R. Arzac ${ }^{1,4,5}$
Phyllis O. Bonanno 1,4,5
Daniel E. Emerson 1,3,5
Frederic A. Escherich 2,3
Roger W. Gale ${ }^{1,3,5}$

1. Member of Executive Committee
2. Member of Audit Committee
3. Member of Compensation Committee
4. Member of Retirement Benefits Committee
5. Member of Nominating and Governance Committee

## Officers

| Douglas G. Ober | Chairman and Chief Executive Officer |
| :---: | :---: |
| Joseph M. Truta | President |
| Lawrence L. Hooper, Jr. | Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary |
| Maureen A. Jones | Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer |
| Stephen E. Kohler | Vice President-Research |
| David R. Schiminger | Vice President-Research |
| D. Cotton Swindell | Vice President-Research |
| David D. Weaver | Vice President-Research |
| Christine M. Sloan | Assistant Treasurer |
| Geraldine H. Paré | Assistant Secretary |

## Stock Data

Market Price (9/30/07) \$14.95
Net Asset Value (9/30/07) \$17.33
Discount: 13.7\%

New York Stock Exchange ticker symbol: ADX NASDAQ Mutual Fund Quotation Symbol: XADEX Newspaper stock listings are generally under the abbreviation: AdaEx

## Distributions in 2007

From Investment Income
\$0.14
From Net Realized Gains
Total

Thomas H. Lenagh ${ }^{2,3}$
Kathleen T. McGahran 2,4
Douglas G. Ober ${ }^{1}$
Craig R. Smith 2,4 0.01
\$0.15

The Adams Express Company Third Quarter Report

September 30, 2007

## Generation after generation


we grow with you ${ }^{\text {TM }}$

## 2007 Dividend Payment Dates

March 1, 2007
June 1, 2007
September 1, 2007
December 27, 2007*
*Anticipated

We submit herewith the financial statements of The Adams Express Company (the Company) for the nine months ended September 30, 2007. Also provided are a schedule of investments and other summary financial information.

Net assets of the Company at September 30, 2007 were $\$ 17.33$ per share on $85,490,774$ shares outstanding, compared with $\$ 15.86$ per share at December 31, 2006 on $86,838,223$ shares outstanding. On March 1, 2007, a distribution of $\$ 0.05$ per share was paid, consisting of $\$ 0.03$ from 2006 investment income, $\$ 0.01$ from 2006 short-term capital gain, and $\$ 0.01$ from 2007 investment income, all taxable in 2007. A 2007 investment income dividend of $\$ 0.05$ per share was paid on June 1, 2007 and September 1, 2007.

Net investment income for the nine months ended September 30, 2007 amounted to $\$ 22,066,131$, compared with $\$ 13,673,160$ for the same nine month period in 2006. These earnings are equal to $\$ 0.26$ and $\$ 0.16$ per share.

Net capital gain realized on investments for the nine months ended September 30, 2007 amounted to $\$ 55,484,647$, or $\$ 0.65$ per share.

For the nine months ended September 30, 2007, the total return on the net asset value (with dividends and capital gains reinvested) of the Company's shares was $10.4 \%$. The total return on the market value of the Company's shares for the period was $8.9 \%$. These compare to a $9.1 \%$ total return for the Standard \& Poor's 500 Composite Stock Index and a $9.0 \%$ total return for the Lipper Large Cap Core Mutual Fund Average over the same time period.

For the twelve months ended September 30, 2007, the Company's total return on net asset value was $17.4 \%$ and on market value was $17.8 \%$. Comparable figures for the S\&P 500 and the Lipper Large Cap Core Mutual Fund Average were $16.4 \%$ and $16.0 \%$, respectively.

Current and potential stockholders can find information about the Company, including the daily net asset value (NAV) per share, the market price, and the discount/premium to the NAV, on our website at www.adamsexpress.com. Also available on the website are a history of the Company, historical financial information, and other useful content. Further information regarding stockholder services is located on page 15 of this report.

By order of the Board of Directors,


Douglas G. Ober, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer


Joseph M. Truta, President

October 12, 2007

September 30, 2007
(unaudited)

| Assets |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Investments* at value: |  |  |
| Common stocks and convertible securities (cost \$881,747,727) | \$1,305,465,645 |  |
| Non-controlled affiliate, Petroleum \& Resources Corporation (cost \$34,735,404) | 88,214,463 |  |
| Short-term investments (cost \$81,850,014) | 81,850,014 |  |
| Securities lending collateral (cost \$70,070,900) | 70,070,900 | \$1,545,601,022 |
| Cash |  | 373,741 |
| Receivables: |  |  |
| Investment securities sold |  | 3,347,053 |
| Dividends and interest |  | 1,293,330 |
| Prepaid pension cost |  | 3,340,022 |
| Prepaid expenses and other assets |  | 2,305,431 |
| Total Assets |  | 1,556,260,599 |
| Liabilities |  |  |
| Investment securities purchased |  | 615,203 |
| Open written option contracts at value (proceeds \$468,488) |  | 627,900 |
| Obligations to return securities lending collateral |  | 70,070,900 |
| Accrued expenses |  | 3,801,516 |
| Total Liabilities |  | 75,115,519 |
| Net Assets |  | \$1,481,145,080 |
| Net Assets |  |  |
| Common Stock at par value $\$ 0.001$ per share, authorized $150,000,000$ shares; issued and outstanding $85,490,774$ shares (includes 86,867 restricted shares, 6,000 restricted stock units, and 4,561 deferred stock units) (Note 6) |  |  |
| Additional capital surplus |  | 935,228,812 |
| Accumulated other comprehensive income (Note 5) |  | $(1,740,749)$ |
| Undistributed net investment income |  | 14,651,049 |
| Undistributed net realized gain on investments |  | 55,882,912 |
| Unrealized appreciation on investments |  | 477,037,565 |
| Net Assets Applicable to Common Stock |  | \$1,481,145,080 |
| Net Asset Value Per Share of Common Stock |  | \$17.33 |
| * See Schedule of Investments on pages 9 and 10. |  |  |
| The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements. |  |  |

Nine Months Ended September 30, 2007
(unaudited)
Investment Income
Income:
Dividends:
From unaffiliated issuers ..... \$ 23,454,022
From non-controlled affiliate ..... 699,767
Interest and other income ..... 2,678,664
Total income ..... 26,832,453
Expenses:
Investment research ..... 2,172,635
Administration and operations ..... 1,061,614
Directors' fees ..... 243,097
Reports and stockholder communications ..... 297,629
Transfer agent, registrar and custodian expenses ..... 265,661
Auditing and accounting services ..... 92,145
Legal services ..... 102,021
Occupancy and other office expenses ..... 294,553
Travel, telephone and postage ..... 66,748
Other ..... 170,219
Total expenses ..... 4,766,322
Net Investment Income ..... 22,066,131
Realized Gain and Change in Unrealized Appreciation on Investments
Net realized gain on security transactions ..... 55,331,573
Net realized gain distributed by regulated investment company (non-controlled affiliate) ..... 153,074
Change in unrealized appreciation on investments ..... 58,281,309
Net Gain on Investments ..... 113,765,956
Change in Net Assets Resulting from Operations ..... \$135,832,087

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

|  | Nine Months Ended September 30, 2007 | Year Ended December 31, 2006 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | (unaudited) |  |
| From Operations: |  |  |
| Net investment income | \$ 22,066,131 | \$ 19,691,488 |
| Net realized gain on investments | 55,484,647 | 56,553,881 |
| Change in unrealized appreciation on investments | 58,281,309 | 102,278,889 |
| Change in accumulated other comprehensive income (note 5) | 83,356 | $(1,824,105)$ |
| Increase in net assets resulting from operations | 135,915,443 | 176,700,153 |
| Distributions to Stockholders from: |  |  |
| Net investment income | (12,047,670) | (19,554,259) |
| Net realized gain from investment transactions | $(868,719)$ | $(56,771,240)$ |
| Decrease in net assets from distributions | $(12,916,389)$ | $(76,325,499)$ |
| From Capital Share Transactions: |  |  |
| Value of shares issued in payment of distributions | 3,988 | 31,661,698 |
| Cost of shares purchased (Note 4) | $(19,734,714)$ | (21,770,315) |
| Deferred compensation (Notes 4,6) | 458,442 | 423,621 |
| Change in net assets from capital share transactions | $(19,272,284)$ | 10,315,004 |
| Total Increase in Net Assets | 103,726,770 | 110,689,658 |
| Net Assets: |  |  |
| Beginning of period | 1,377,418,310 | 1,266,728,652 |
| End of period (including undistributed net investment income of $\$ 14,651,049$ and $\$ 4,632,588$, respectively) | \$1,481,145,080 | \$1,377,418,310 |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

## 1. Significant Accounting Policies

The Adams Express Company (the Company) is registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940 as a diversified investment company. The Company is an internally-managed fund whose investment objectives are preservation of capital, the attainment of reasonable income from investments, and an opportunity for capital appreciation.

Security Valuation - Investments in securities traded on a national security exchange are valued at the last reported sale price on the day of valuation. Over-the-counter and listed securities for which a sale price is not available are valued at the last quoted bid price. Short-term investments (excluding purchased options) are valued at amortized cost. Purchased and written options are valued at the last quoted asked price.

Affiliated Companies - Investments in companies 5\% or more of whose outstanding voting securities are held by the Company are defined as "Affiliated Companies" in Section 2(a)(3) of the Investment Company Act of 1940.
Security Transactions and Investment Income - Investment transactions are accounted for on the trade date. Gain or loss on sales of securities and options is determined on the basis of identified cost. Dividend income and distributions to stockholders are recognized on the ex-dividend date, and interest income is recognized on the accrual basis.

## 2. Federal Income Taxes

The Company's policy is to distribute all of its taxable income to its stockholders in compliance with the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code applicable to regulated investment companies. Therefore, no federal income tax provision is required. For federal income tax purposes, the identified cost of securities at September 30, 2007 was $\$ 1,067,916,794$ and net unrealized appreciation aggregated $\$ 477,684,228$, of which the related gross unrealized appreciation and depreciation were $\$ 552,972,186$ and $\$ 75,287,958$, respectively.

Distributions are determined in accordance with income tax regulations which may differ from generally accepted accounting principles. Accordingly, annual reclassifications are made within the Company's capital accounts to reflect income and gains available for distribution under income tax regulations. Any income tax-related interest or penalties would be classified as income tax expense.

## 3. Investment Transactions

The Company's investment decisions are made by a committee of management, and recommendations to that committee are made by the research staff.

Purchases and sales of portfolio securities, other than options and shortterm investments, during the nine months ended September 30, 2007 were $\$ 125,278,533$ and $\$ 152,441,252$, respectively. Options may be written (sold) or purchased by the Company. The Company, as writer of an option, bears the risks of possible illiquidity of the option markets and from movements in security values. The risk associated with purchasing an option is limited to the premium originally paid. A schedule of outstanding option contracts as of September 30, 2007 can be found on page 12.

Transactions in written covered call and collateralized put options during the nine months ended September 30, 2007 were as follows:

|  | Covered Calls |  | Collateralized Puts |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Contracts | Premiums | Contracts | Premiums |
| Options outstanding, December 31, 2006 | 3,745 | \$ 497,618 | 2,103 | \$ 220,313 |
| Options written | 4,640 | 580,125 | 4,785 | 540,246 |
| Options terminated in closing purchase transactions | (780) | $(114,107)$ | (200) | $(29,400)$ |
| Options expired | $(3,395)$ | $(419,496)$ | $(4,153)$ | $(451,931)$ |
| Options exercised | $(2,170)$ | $(317,728)$ | (385) | $(37,152)$ |
| Options outstanding, September 30, 2007 | 2,040 | \$ 226,412 | 2,150 | \$ 242,076 |

## 4. Capital Stock

The Company has $10,000,000$ authorized and unissued preferred shares, \$0.001 par value.
On December 27, 2006, the Company issued 2,301,959 shares of its Common Stock at a price of $\$ 13.75$ per share (the average market price on December 11, 2006) to stockholders of record on November 21, 2006 who elected to take stock in payment of the year-end distribution from 2006 capital gain and investment income. In addition, 722 shares were issued at a weighted average price of $\$ 13.43$ per share as dividend equivalents to holders of deferred stock units and restricted stock units under the 2005 Equity Incentive Compensation Plan.

During 2007, the Company has issued 282 shares of its Common Stock at a weighted average price of $\$ 14.07$ per share as dividend equivalents to holders of deferred stock units and restricted stock units under the 2005 Equity Incentive Compensation Plan.

The Company may purchase shares of its Common Stock from time to time at such prices and amounts as the Board of Directors may deem advisable.

Transactions in Common Stock for 2007 and 2006 were as follows:

|  | Shares |  | Amount |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Nine months } \\ & \text { ended } \\ & \text { September 30, } \\ & 2007 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Year ended } \\ \text { December 31, } \\ 2006 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Nine months } \\ & \text { ended } \\ & \text { September 30, } \\ & 2007 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Year ended } \\ \text { December 31, } \\ 2006 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |
| Shares issued in payment of distributions | 282 | 2,302,681 | \$ 3,988 | \$ 31,661,698 |
| Shares purchased (at a weighted average discount from net asset value of $13.1 \%$ and $13.9 \%$, respectively) | $(1,391,931)$ | $(1,623,542)$ | (19,734,714) | (21,770,315) |
| Net activity under the Equity-Based Compensation Plans | 44,200 | 59,477 | 458,442 | 423,621 |
| Net change | $(1,347,449)$ | 738,616 | \$(19,272,284) | \$ 10,315,004 |

## 5. Retirement Plans

The Company's non-contributory qualified defined benefit pension plan ("qualified plan") covers all employees with at least one year of service. In addition, the Company has a non-contributory nonqualified defined benefit plan which provides eligible employees with retirement benefits to supplement the qualified plan. Benefits are based on length of service and compensation during the last five years of employment.
The funded status of the plans is recognized as an asset (overfunded plan) or a liability (underfunded plan) in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. Changes in the prior service costs and accumulated actuarial gains and losses are recognized as accumulated other comprehensive income, a component of net assets, in the year in which the changes occur.
The Company's policy is to contribute annually to the plans those amounts that can be deducted for federal income tax purposes, plus additional amounts as the Company deems appropriate in order to provide assets sufficient to meet benefits to be paid to plan participants. During the nine months ended September 30, 2007, the Company did not contribute to the plans. The Company does not anticipate making any contribution to the overfunded qualified plan in 2007.
The following table aggregates the components of the plans' net periodic pension cost:

|  | Nine months <br> ended <br> September 30, | Year ended <br> December 31, <br>  <br>  <br> Service cost <br> 2007 |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Interest cost | $\$ 365,486$ |  |  |
| Expected return on plan assets |  | $\$ 60,969$ |  |
| Amortization of prior service cost |  | 426,371 |  |
| Amortization of net loss | $(641,665)$ |  | 518,015 |
| $(922,155)$ |  |  |  |
| Deferred asset gain | 70,881 |  | 119,776 |
| Net periodic pension cost | - |  | 180,764 |

The Company also sponsors a defined contribution plan that covers substantially all employees. For the nine months ended September 30, 2007, the Company expensed contributions of $\$ 142,963$. The Company does not provide postretirement medical benefits.

## 6. Equity-Based Compensation

Although the Stock Option Plan of 1985 ("1985 Plan") has been discontinued and no further grants will be made under this plan, unexercised grants of stock options and stock appreciation rights granted in 2004 and prior years remain outstanding. The exercise price of the unexercised options and related stock appreciation rights is the fair market value on date of grant, reduced by the per share amount of capital gains paid by the Company during subsequent years. All options and related stock appreciation rights terminate 10 years from date of grant, if not exercised.
A summary of option activity under the 1985 Plan as of September 30, 2007, and changes during the nine month period then ended, is presented below:

|  | Options | WeightedAverage Exercise Price | Weighted- <br> Average <br> Remaining <br> Life (Years) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Outstanding at December 31, 2006 | 201,990 | \$11.81 | 4.79 |
| Exercised | $(55,186)$ | 10.38 | - |
| Outstanding at September 30, 2007 | 146,804 | \$12.33 | 3.72 |
| Exercisable at September 30, 2007 | 80,282 | \$12.86 | 3.00 |

The options outstanding as of September 30, 2007 are set forth below:

| Exercise Price | Options Outstanding | Weighted <br> Average <br> Exercise <br> Price | Weighted <br> Average <br> Remaining <br> Life (Years) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| \$8.25-\$10.49 | 42,817 | \$ 9.25 | 3.39 |
| \$10.50-\$12.74 | 52,839 | 11.02 | 4.85 |
| \$12.75-\$14.99 | - | - | - |
| \$15.00-\$17.25 | 51,148 | 16.28 | 2.84 |
| Outstanding at |  |  |  |
| September 30, 2007 | 146,804 | \$12.33 | 3.72 |

Compensation cost resulting from stock options and stock appreciation rights granted under the 1985 Plan is based on the intrinsic value of the award, recognized over the award's vesting period, and remeasured at each reporting date through the date of settlement. The total compensation cost recognized for the nine months ended September 30, 2007 was $\$ 130,556$.
The 2005 Equity Incentive Compensation Plan ("2005 Plan"), adopted at the 2005 Annual Meeting, permits the grant of stock options, restricted stock awards and other stock incentives to key employees and all non-employee directors. The 2005 Plan provides for the issuance of up to $3,413,131$ shares of the Company's Common Stock, including both performance and nonperformance-based restricted stock. Performance-based restricted stock awards vest at the end of a specified three year period, with the ultimate number of awards earned contingent on achievement of certain performance targets. If performance targets are not achieved, all or a portion of the performance-based awards are forfeited and become available for future grants. Nonperformance-based restricted stock awards vest ratably over a three year period and nonperformance-based restricted stock units (granted to non-employee directors) vest over a one year period. It is the current intention that employee grants will be performance-based. The 2005 Plan provides for accelerated vesting in the event of death or retirement. Non-employee directors also may elect to defer a portion of their cash compensation, with such deferred amount to be paid by delivery of deferred stock units. Outstanding awards are granted at fair market value on grant date. The number of shares of Common Stock which remains available for future grants under the 2005 Plan at September 30, 2007 is $3,288,888$ shares.
The Company pays dividends and dividend equivalents on outstanding awards, which are charged to net assets when paid. Dividends and dividend equivalents paid on restricted awards that are later forfeited are reclassified to compensation expense.
A summary of the status of the Company's awards granted under the 2005 Plan as of September 30, 2007, and changes during the nine month period then ended, is presented below:

| Awards | Shares/ <br> Units | Weighted Average Grant-Date Fair Value |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Balance at December 31, 2006 | 70,493 | \$12.92 |
| Granted: |  |  |
| Restricted stock | 32,720 | 13.73 |
| Restricted stock units | 6,000 | 14.07 |
| Deferred stock units | 1,412 | 14.24 |
| Vested | $(13,197)$ | 12.99 |
| Forfeited | - | - |

Balance at September 30, 2007 (includes 82,220
performance-based awards and 15,208
nonperformance-based awards)
97,428
\$13.28

Compensation costs resulting from awards granted under the 2005 Plan are based on the fair value of the award on grant date (determined by the average of the high and low price on grant date) and recognized on a straight-line basis over the requisite service period. For those awards with performance conditions, compensation costs are based on the most probable outcome and, if such goals are not met, compensation cost is not recognized and any previously recognized compensation cost is reversed. The total compensation costs for restricted stock granted to employees for the period ending September 30, 2007 were $\$ 315,662$. The total compensation costs for restricted stock units granted to nonemployee directors for the period ended September 30, 2007 were $\$ 66,097$. As of September 30, 2007, there were total unrecognized compensation costs of $\$ 679,713$, a component of additional capital surplus, related to nonvested equity-based compensation arrangements granted under the 2005 Plan. Those costs are expected to be recognized over a weighted average period of 1.67 years.

## 7. Officer and Director Compensation

The aggregate remuneration paid during the nine months ended September 30, 2007 to officers and directors amounted to $\$ 2,506,833$, of which $\$ 227,791$ was paid as fees and compensation
to directors who were not officers. These amounts represent the taxable income to the Company's officers and directors and therefore differ from the amounts reported in the accompanying Statement of Operations that are recorded and expensed in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

## 8. Portfolio Securities Loaned

The Company makes loans of securities to brokers, secured by cash deposits, U.S. Government securities, or bank letters of credit. The Company accounts for securities lending transactions as secured financing and receives compensation in the form of fees or retains a portion of interest on the investment of any cash received as collateral. The Company also continues to receive interest or dividends on the securities loaned. The loans are secured at all times by collateral of at least $102 \%$ of the fair value of the securities loaned plus accrued interest. Gain or loss in the fair value of the securities loaned that may occur during the term of the loan will be for the account of the Company. At September 30, 2007, the Company had securities on loan of \$68,210,267 and held collateral of $\$ 70,070,900$, consisting of an investment trust fund which may invest in money market instruments, commercial paper, repurchase agreements, U.S. Treasury Bills, and U.S. agency obligations.


[^0]September 30, 2007
(unaudited)

|  | Shares | Value (A) |  | Shares | Value (A) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Stocks and Convertible Securities - 94.1\% |  |  | Insurance - 3.1\% |  |  |
| Consumer - 16.1\% |  |  | AMBAC Financial Group, |  |  |
| BJ's Wholesale Club, Inc. (B)(C) | 415,000 | \$ 13,761,400 | American International Group, |  |  |
| Comcast Corp. (B) | 525,000 | 12,694,500 |  | 500,000 | 33,825,000 |
| Gannett Co., Inc. | 112,500 | 4,916,250 |  |  | 46,407,000 |
| Harley-Davidson, Inc. | 120,000 | 5,545,200 | Health Care - 11.7\% |  |  |
| Lowe's Companies, Inc. | 575,000 | 16,111,500 | Abbott Laboratories | 320,000 | 17,158,400 |
| Newell Rubbermaid Inc. | 400,000 | 11,528,000 | Advanced Medical Optics, |  |  |
| Ryland Group Inc. | 343,500 | 7,361,205 |  |  |  |
| Target Corp. | 290,000 | 18,435,300 | Bristol-Myers Squibb Co. | 345,000 | 9,942,900 |
|  |  | 90,353,355 | CVS/Caremark Corp. | 208,750 | 8,272,763 |
| Consumer Staples - 10.0\% |  |  | Genentech, Inc. (B) | 220,000 | 17,164,400 |
| Avon Products, Inc. (C) | 418,400 | 15,702,552 | Johnson \& Johnson | 255,000 | 16,753,500 |
| Bunge Ltd. | 133,000 | 14,290,850 | Medtronic, Inc. | 310,000 | 17,487,100 |
| Coca-Cola Co. | 200,000 | 11,494,000 | Pfizer Inc. | 1,120,000 | 27,361,600 |
| Dean Foods Co. | 340,000 | 8,697,200 | Senomyx, Inc. (B)(C) | 560,000 | 6,860,000 |
| Del Monte Foods Co. | 1,300,000 | 13,650,000 | Teva Pharmaceutical Industries |  |  |
| PepsiCo, Inc. | 400,000 | 29,304,000 | Ltd. ADR Wyeth Co. | 385,000 325,000 | $17,120,950$ $14,478,750$ |
| Procter \& Gamble Co. | 340,000 | 23,915,600 | Wyeth Co. | 325,000 | $\begin{aligned} & 14,478,750 \\ & 10,123,750 \end{aligned}$ |
| Safeway Inc. | 390,000 | 12,912,900 |  | 125,000 |  |
| Unilever plc ADR | 550,000 | 17,418,500 |  |  | 172,665,863 |
|  |  | 147,385,602 | Industrials - 14.6\% |  |  |
| Energy - 13.9\% |  |  | Cintas Corp. | 300,000 | 11,130,000 |
| ConocoPhillips | 345,000 | 30,280,650 | Curtiss-Wright Corp. | 360,000 | 17,100,000 |
| ENSCO International, Inc. | 209,150 | 11,733,315 | Emerson Electric Co. | 400,000 | 21,288,000 |
| Exxon Mobil Corp. | 215,000 | 19,900,400 | General Electric Co. | $1,421,000$ 250,000 | $58,829,400$ |
| Marathon Oil Co. | 240,000 | 13,684,800 | Masco Corp. (C) | 450,000 | 10,426,500 |
| Murphy Oil Corp. | 38,500 | 2,690,765 | Oshkosh Truck Corp. | 270,000 | 16,731,900 |
| Petroleum \& Resources |  |  | Oshkosh Truck Corp. 3M Co. | 160,000 | 14,972,800 |
| Corporation (D) | 2,186,774 | 88,214,463 | Spirit AeroSystems Holdings, 10, |  |  |
| Schlumberger Ltd. | 380,000 | 39,900,000 | Inc. (B) | 400,000 | 15,576,000 |
|  |  | 206,404,393 | United Parcel Service, Inc. | 155,000 | 11,640,500 |
| Financials - 15.8\% |  |  | United Technologies Corp. | 300,000 | 24,144,000 |
| Banking - 12.7\% |  |  |  |  | 216,749,100 |
| BankAtlantic Bancorp, Inc. | 880,000 | 7,629,600 | Information Technology - $\mathbf{1 1 . 8 \%}$ |  |  |
| Bank of America Corp. | 710,000 | 35,691,700 |  |  |  |
| Bank of New York Mellon Corp. | 403,775 | 17,822,629 | Corning Inc. | Communication Equipment - 0.8\% |  |
| Fifth Third Bancorp | 280,000 | 9,486,400 | Computer Related - 8.6\% |  |  |
| Morgan Stanley | 180,000 | 11,340,000 |  |  |  |
| PNC Financial Services Group | 200,000 |  | Automatic Data Processing Inc. BEA Systems, Inc. (B) | 300,000 800,000 | 13,779,000 |
| Prosperity Bancshares, Inc. | 200,000 | 6,632,000 | Cisco Systems, Inc. (B) | 850,000 | 28,143,500 |
| State Street Corp. | 323,895 | 22,076,683 | Dell Inc. (B) | 585,000 | 16,146,000 |
| Wachovia Corp. | 520,000 | 26,078,000 | Microsoft Corp. | 1,180,000 | 34,762,800 |
| Wells Fargo \& Co. | 650,000 | 23,153,000 | Oracle Corp. (B) | 1,100,000 | 23,815,000 |
| Wilmington Trust Corp. | 363,000 | 14,120,700 |  |  | 127,742,300 |
|  |  | 187,650,712 | Electronics - 2.4\% |  |  |
|  |  |  | Broadcom Corp. (B) | 400,000 | 14,576,000 |
|  |  |  | Intel Corp. | 800,000 | 20,688,000 |
|  |  |  |  |  | 35,264,000 |

September 30, 2007
(unaudited)

|  | Shares/ <br> Prin. Amt | Value (A) |  | Prin. Amt. | Value (A) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Materials - 5.1\% |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | \$ 22,484,800 | American General Finance, Inc., 5.03-5.25\%, due 10/18/07-10/23/07 |  |  |
| du Pont (E.I.) de Nemours and Co . | 360,000 | 17,841,600 |  | \$12,400,000 | \$ 12,364,976 |
| Lubrizol Corp | 200,000 | 13,012,000 | Chevron Funding Corp., <br> $5.22 \%$, due 10/2/07 | 5,800,000 | 5,799,159 |
| Rohm \& Haas Co. | 400,000 | 22,268,000 | General Electric Capital |  |  |
|  |  | 75,606,400 | Corp., 4.68-5.23\%, due 10/4/07-10/9/07 | 10,400,000 | 10,392,120 |
| Telecom Services - 1.6\% |  |  | General Electric Capital |  |  |
| Alltel Corp. | 40,000 | 2,787,200 | Services Corp., |  |  |
| AT\&T Corp. | 400,000 | 16,924,000 | 4.77\%, due 10/30/07 | 2,100,000 | 2,091,931 |
| Windstream Corp. | 310,178 | 4,379,713 | Prudential Funding, LLC, 4.69-5.23\%, |  |  |
|  |  | 24,090,913 | due 10/11/07-10/25/07 | 10,000,000 | 9,974,090 |
| Utilities - 3.5\% |  |  | Toyota Motor Credit Corp., |  |  |
| Aqua America, Inc. (C) | 499,000 | 11,317,320 | $5.21-5.25 \%$, |  |  |
| Duke Energy Corp. | 611,560 | 11,430,056 | due 10/2/07-10/16/07 | 11,100,000 | 11,080,055 |
| MDU Resources Group, Inc. | 562,500 | 15,660,000 | United Parcel Service of |  |  |
| Northeast Utilities | 180,000 | 5,142,600 | America, Inc., |  |  |
| Spectra Energy Corp. | 305,780 | 7,485,494 | 4.40\%, due 10/30/07 | 3,200,000 | 3,188,658 |
|  |  | 51,035,470 |  |  | 65,148,593 |
| Total Stocks and Convertible Securities (Cost \$916,483,131) (E) |  | 1,393,680,108 | Total Short-Term Investments (Cost \$81,850,014) |  | 81,850,014 |
| Short-Term Investments - 5.5\% <br> U.S. Government Obligations - 1.1\% |  |  | Total Securities Lending Collateral - $\mathbf{4 . 7 \%}$ (Cost \$70,070,900) |  |  |
| U.S. Treasury Bills, |  | 16,404, | Brown Brothers Investment |  | 70,070,900 |
| Time Deposit - 0.0\% |  |  | Total Investments - 104.3\% |  |  |
| Citibank, N.A., <br> $4.37 \%$, due 10/1/07 |  |  | (Cost \$1,068,404,045) |  | 1,545,601,022 |
|  |  | 297,327 | Cash, receivables, prepaid pension cost, prepaid expenses and other assets, less |  |  |
| Commercial Paper - 4.4\% |  |  |  |  |  |
| American Express Credit |  |  | liabilities - (4.3)\% |  | $(64,455,942)$ |
| Corp., 4.78\%, due 11/1/07 | \$10,300,000 | 10,257,604 | Net Assets - 100\% |  | \$1,481,145,080 |

Notes:
(A) See note 1 to financial statements. Securities are listed on the New York Stock Exchange, the American Stock Exchange or the NASDAQ.
(B) Presently non-dividend paying.
(C) Some of the shares of this company are on loan. See note 8 to financial statements.
(D) Non-controlled affiliate, a closed-end sector fund, registered as an investment company under the Investment Company Act of 1940.
(E) The aggregate market value of stocks held in escrow at September 30, 2007 covering open call option contracts written was $\$ 11,479,730$. In addition, the aggregate market value of securities segregated by the Company's custodian required to collateralize open put option contracts written was $\$ 10,575,000$.

## Ten Largest Portfolio Holdings

Petroleum \& Resources Corporation*

| Market Value | \% of Net Assets |
| ---: | :---: |
| $\$ 88,214,463$ | 6.0 |
| $58,829,400$ | 4.0 |
| $39,900,000$ | 2.7 |
| $35,691,700$ | 2.4 |
| $34,762,800$ | 2.3 |
| $33,825,000$ | 2.3 |
| $30,280,650$ | 2.0 |
| $29,304,000$ | 2.0 |
| $28,143,500$ | 1.9 |
| $27,361,600$ | $\underline{1.8}$ |
| $\$ 406,313,113$ | $27.4 \%$ |

*Non-controlled affiliate


September 30, 2007
(unaudited)


## COLLATERALIZED PUTS

AMBAC Financial Group, Inc. ...................... . . 50
Exxon Mobil Corp. ................................... 65
Harley-Davidson, Inc. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 52.50
Lowe's Companies, Inc. . ............................. 30
Lubrizol Corp. ......................................... . 55
Lubrizol Corp. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 60
Morgan Stanley ..................................... 60
Procter \& Gamble Co. ................................ . 60
Ryland Group Inc. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 25
Spirit Aerosystems Holdings, Inc. ................... 35
State Street Corp. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 60
State Street Corp. . ..................................... . . 55
State Street Corp.30

| Jan | 08 | $(14,601)$ |
| :--- | :--- | :---: |
| Jan | 08 | 16,399 |
| Nov | 07 | $(55,300)$ |
| Oct | 07 | $(28,875)$ |
| Dec | 07 | 9,399 |
| Dec | 07 | $(11,600)$ |
| Oct | 07 | 6,399 |
| Oct | 07 | 10,200 |
| Oct | 07 | $(42,450)$ |
| Oct | 07 | 13,355 |
| Oct | 07 | 12,200 |
| Nov | 07 | 7,700 |
| Jan | 08 | $\underline{4,750}$ |
|  |  | $\underline{(72,424)}$ |

## Common Stock

Listed on the New York Stock Exchange

## The Adams Express Company

Seven St. Paul Street, Suite 1140, Baltimore, MD 21202
(410) 752-5900 or (800) 638-2479

Website: www.adamsexpress.com
E-mail: contact@adamsexpress.com
Counsel: Chadbourne \& Parke L.L.P.
Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm: PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
Transfer Agent \& Registrar: American Stock Transfer \& Trust Co.
Custodian of Securities: Brown Brothers Harriman \& Co.

During the Three Months Ended September 30, 2007<br>(unaudited)

|  | Shares |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Additions | $\underline{\text { Reductions }}$ | Held September 30, 2007 |
| Bank of America Corp. | 100,000 |  | 710,000 |
| Bank of New York Mellon Corp. | 403,775 ${ }^{(1)}$ |  | 403,775 |
| Del Monte Foods Co. | 185,000 |  | 1,300,000 |
| Lubrizol Corp. | 200,000 |  | 200,000 |
| Morgan Stanley | 30,000 |  | 180,000 |
| Northeast Utilities | 180,000 |  | 180,000 |
| Ryland Group Inc. | 38,500 |  | 343,500 |
| Senomyx, Inc. | 10,000 |  | 560,000 |
| Spirit AeroSystems Holdings, Inc. | 5,000 |  | 400,000 |
| State Street Corp. | 323,895 ${ }^{(2)}$ |  | 323,895 |
| Wachovia Corp. | 50,000 |  | 520,000 |
| Discover Financial Services Inc. | 75,000 ${ }^{(3)}$ | 75,000 | - |
| Alltel Corp. |  | 260,000 | 40,000 |
| Avaya, Inc. |  | 600,000 | - |
| Bank of New York Co., Inc. (The) |  | 375,000 ${ }^{(1)}$ | - |
| BJ's Wholesale Club, Inc. |  | 35,000 | 415,000 |
| Bunge Ltd. |  | 7,000 | 133,000 |
| Compass Bancshares, Inc. |  | 85,000 | - |
| Cree, Inc. |  | 375,000 | - |
| Florida Rock Industries Inc. |  | 200,000 | - |
| General Electric Co. |  | 66,700 | 1,421,000 |
| Investors Financial Services Corp. |  | 357,500 ${ }^{(2)}$ | - |

[^1]Historical Financial Statidtics

| Dec. 31 | Value Of <br> Net Assets | Shares Outstanding* | (unaudited) |  | Dividends From Investment Income Per Share* | Distributions From Net Realized Gains Per Share* | Total Dividends and Distributions Per Share* | AnnualRate ofDistribution** |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Net Asset Value Per Share* | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Market } \\ & \text { Value } \\ & \text { Per Share** } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |  |
| 1997 | \$1,424,170,425 | 74,923,859 | \$19.01 | \$16.13 | \$. 29 | \$1.01 | \$1.30 | 8.65\% |
| 1998 | 1,688,080,336 | 77,814,977 | 21.69 | 17.75 | . 30 | 1.10 | 1.40 | 8.17 |
| 1999 | 2,170,801,875 | 80,842,241 | 26.85 | 22.38 | . 26 | 1.37 | 1.63 | 8.53 |
| 2000 | 1,951,562,978 | 82,292,262 | 23.72 | 21.00 | . 22 | 1.63 | 1.85 | 7.76 |
| 2001 | 1,368,366,316 | 85,233,262 | 16.05 | 14.22 | . 26 | 1.39 | 1.65 | 9.44 |
| 2002 | 1,024,810,092 | 84,536,250 | 12.12 | 10.57 | . 19 | . 57 | . 76 | 6.14 |
| 2003 | 1,218,862,456 | 84,886,412 | 14.36 | 12.41 | . 17 | . 61 | . 78 | 6.80 |
| 2004 | 1,295,548,900 | 86,135,292 | 15.04 | 13.12 | . 24 | . 66 | . 90 | 7.05 |
| 2005 | 1,266,728,652 | 86,099,607 | 14.71 | 12.55 | . 22 | . 64 | . 86 | 6.65 |
| 2006 | 1,377,418,310 | 86,838,223 | 15.86 | 13.87 | . 23 | . 67 | . 90 | 6.80 |
| Sept. 30, 2007 | 1,481,145,080 | 85,490,774 | 17.33 | 14.95 | . 14 | . 01 | . 15 | - |

[^2]
## Statement on Quarterly Filing of Complete Portfolio Schedule

In addition to publishing its complete schedule of portfolio holdings in the First and Third Quarter Reports to stockholders, the Company files its complete schedule of portfolio holdings with the Securities and Exchange Commission for the first and third quarters of each fiscal year on Form N-Q. The Company's Forms N-Q are available on the Commission's website at www.sec.gov. The Company's Forms N-Q may be reviewed and copied at the Commission's Public Reference Room, and information on the operation of the Public Reference Room may be obtained by calling (800) SEC-0330. The Company also posts its Forms N-Q on its website at www.adamsexpress.com under the heading "Financial Reports".

## Proxy Voting Policies and Record

A description of the policies and procedures that the Company uses to determine how to vote proxies relating to portfolio securities owned by the Company and information as to how the Company voted proxies relating to portfolio securities during the 12 month period ended June 30, 2007 are available (i) without charge, upon request, by calling the Company's toll free number at (800) 638-2479; (ii) on the Company's website by clicking on "Corporate Information" heading on the website; and (iii) on the Securities and Exchange Commission's website at http//www.sec.gov.

## Privacy Policy

In order to conduct its business, The Adams Express Company, through its transfer agent, currently American Stock Transfer \& Trust Company, collects and maintains certain nonpublic personal information about our stockholders of record with respect to their transactions in shares of our securities. This information includes the stockholder's address, tax identification or Social Security number, share balances, and dividend elections. We do not collect or maintain personal information about stockholders whose shares of our securities are held in "street name" by a financial institution such as a bank or broker.

We do not disclose any nonpublic personal information about you, our other stockholders or our former stockholders to third parties unless necessary to process a transaction, service an account or as otherwise permitted by law.

To protect your personal information internally, we restrict access to nonpublic personal information about our stockholders to those employees who need to know that information to provide services to our stockholders. We also maintain certain other safeguards to protect your nonpublic personal information.

[^3]
## DIVIDEND PAYMENT SCHEDULE

The Company presently pays dividends four times a year, as follows: (a) three interim distributions on or about March 1, June 1, and September 1, and (b) a "year-end" distribution, payable in late December, consisting of the estimated balance of the net investment income for the year and the net realized capital gain earned through October 31. Stockholders may elect to receive the year-end distribution in stock or cash. In connection with this distribution, all stockholders of record are sent a dividend announcement notice and an election card in mid-November.

Stockholders holding shares in "street" or brokerage accounts may make their election by notifying their brokerage house representative.

## INVESTORS CHOICE

INVESTORS CHOICE is a direct stock purchase and sale plan, as well as a dividend reinvestment plan, sponsored and administered by our transfer agent, American Stock Transfer \& Trust Company (AST). The Plan provides registered stockholders and interested first time investors an affordable alternative for buying, selling, and reinvesting in Adams Express shares.

The costs to participants in administrative service fees and brokerage commissions for each type of transaction are listed below.

Initial Enrollment and
Optional Cash Investments
Service Fee
Brokerage Commission

## $\$ 2.50$ per investment $\$ 0.05$ per share

Reinvestment of Dividends*
Service Fee $\quad 2 \%$ of amount invested (maximum of $\$ 2.50$ per investment)
Brokerage Commission $\$ 0.05$ per share

## Sale of Shares

Service Fee
\$10.00
Brokerage Commission $\$ 0.05$ per share
Deposit of Certificates for safekeeping
$\$ 7.50$
Book to Book Transfers
Included
To transfer shares to another participant or to a new participant
Fees are subject to change at any time.

Minimum and Maximum Cash Investments
Initial minimum investment (non-holders) $\quad \$ 500.00$
Minimum optional investment (existing holders) $\$ 50.00$
Electronic Funds Transfer (monthly minimum) $\$ 50.00$
Maximum per transaction \$25,000.00
Maximum per year
NONE
A brochure which further details the benefits and features of INVESTORS CHOICE as well as an enrollment form may be obtained by contacting AST.

## For Non-Registered Stockholders

For stockholders whose stock is held by a broker in "street" name, the AST INVESTORS CHOICE Direct Stock Purchase and Sale Plan remains available through many registered investment security dealers. If your shares are currently held in a "street" name or brokerage account, please contact your broker for details about how you can participate in AST's Plan or contact AST.

The Company
The Adams Express Company
Lawrence L. Hooper, Jr.
Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary
Seven St. Paul Street, Suite 1140, Baltimore, MD 21202
(800) 638-2479

Website: www.adamsexpress.com
E-mail: contact@adamsexpress.com

## The Transfer Agent

American Stock Transfer \& Trust Company
Address Stockholder Inquiries to:
Stockholder Relations Department 59 Maiden Lane
New York, NY 10038 (877) 260-8188

Website: www.amstock.com
E-mail: info@amstock.com
Investors Choice Mailing Address:
Attention: Dividend Reinvestment
P.O. Box 922

Wall Street Station
New York, NY 10269-0560
Website: www.amstock.com
E-mail: info@amstock.com
*The year-end dividend and capital gain distribution will usually be made in newly issued shares of common stock. There are no fees or commissions in connection with this dividend and capital gain distribution when made in newly issued shares.


[^0]:    * In April 2007 the Company received $\$ 5,100,000$, or $\$ 0.06$ per share, in a special cash dividend from Dean Foods Co.
    ** In 2004 the Company received $\$ 2,400,000$, or $\$ 0.03$ per share, in an extraordinary dividend from Microsoft Corp.
    $\dagger$ Ratios presented on an annualized basis.

[^1]:    ${ }^{(1)}$ Received .9434 share of Bank of New York Mellon Corp. for each share of The Bank of New York Co., Inc. surrendered.
    ${ }^{(2)}$ Received .906 share for each share of Investors Financial Services, Inc. surrendered.
    ${ }^{(3)}$ Received 1 share for every 2 shares of Morgan Stanley held.

[^2]:    * Adjusted to reflect the 3-for-2 stock split effected in October 2000.
    ** The annual rate of distribution is the total dividends and capital gain distributions during the year divided by the average daily market price of the Company's Common Stock.

[^3]:    This report, including the financial statements herein, is transmitted to the stockholders of The Adams Express Company for their information. It is not a prospectus, circular or representation intended for use in the purchase or sale of shares of the Company or of any securities mentioned in the report. The rates of return will vary and the principal value of an investment will fluctuate. Shares, if sold, may be worth more or less than their original cost. Past performance is not indicative of future investment results.

