

ORTHODONTIC CENTERS OF AMERICA INC /DE/  
Form 10-Q  
November 05, 2001

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

FORM 10-Q

QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES  
EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 FOR THE QUARTERLY PERIOD ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2001,

OR

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES  
EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 FOR THE TRANSITION PERIOD FROM \_\_\_\_\_ TO \_\_\_\_\_.

Commission File No.: 001-13457

ORTHODONTIC CENTERS OF AMERICA, INC.

-----  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware

-----  
(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)

72-1278948

-----  
(I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)

3850 North Causeway Boulevard, Suite 1040  
Metairie, Louisiana

-----  
(Address of principal executive offices)

70002

-----  
(Zip Code)

(504) 834-4392

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

-----  
(Former name, former address and former fiscal year,  
if changed since last report)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the Registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. YES X NO  
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At October 26, 2001, there were 49,984,157 outstanding shares of the Registrant's Common Stock, \$.01 par value per share.

ORTHODONTIC CENTERS OF AMERICA, INC.

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FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Certain statements contained in this Report may not be based on historical facts and are "forward looking statements" within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. These forward-looking statements may be identified by reference to a future period(s) or by the use of forward looking terminology, such as "anticipate," "estimate," "believe," "expect," "foresee," "may" or "will." These forward-looking statements include the statements regarding the Company's future growth, deferred tax asset, liquidity, capital resources, acquisition of service agreements and the proposed merger with OrthAlliance, Inc. The Company cautions you not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, in that they involve certain risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from anticipated results. These risks and uncertainties include failure or delay in obtaining required stockholder approval or meeting

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other conditions to closing the proposed merger, the companies' failure to consummate the proposed merger, inability to successfully integrate the companies after the proposed merger, adverse changes in the companies' financial results and conditions, failure to consummate proposed developments or acquisitions, the ability of the Company to effectively manage an increasing number of Orthodontic Centers, changes in the general economy of the United States and the specific markets in which the Orthodontic Centers are or are proposed to be located, risks relating to the Company's foreign operations, unexpected operating results, changes in the Company's operating or expansion strategy, the ability of the

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Company to attract and retain qualified personnel and orthodontists, the ability of the Company to effectively market its services and products, existing and future regulations affecting the Company's business, the Company's dependence on existing sources of funding, and other factors generally understood to affect the financial results of orthodontic practice management companies and other factors as may be identified from time to time in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2000 and other filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission or in other public announcements by the Company. The Company undertakes no obligation to update these forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances that occur after the date of this Report.

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PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION  
ITEM 1. CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Orthodontic Centers of America, Inc.

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Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets

	September 30, 2001
	----- (Unaudited) (in thou)
<b>ASSETS:</b>	
Current assets:	
Cash and cash equivalents .....	\$ 11,133
Investments .....	--
Service fees receivable, net of allowance for uncollectible amounts .	50,757
Deferred income taxes .....	1,469
Current portion of advances to orthodontic entities .....	9,329
Supplies inventory .....	8,589
Prepaid expenses and other assets .....	5,595
	-----
Total current assets .....	86,872
Property, equipment and improvements, net .....	88,776
Advances to orthodontic entities, less current portion .....	10,595
Deferred income taxes .....	24,539
Intangible assets .....	207,012
Other assets .....	4,201
	-----
Total assets .....	\$421,995 =====
<b>LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY:</b>	
Current liabilities:	
Accounts payable .....	\$ 8,431
Accrued salaries and other current liabilities .....	7,923
Deferred revenue .....	1,876
Income taxes payable .....	777
Amounts payable to orthodontic entities .....	3,374
Current portion of notes payable to affiliated orthodontists .....	1,211
	-----
Total current liabilities .....	23,592
Long-term debt, less current portion .....	54,265
Non-controlling interest in subsidiary .....	47
Stockholders' equity:	
Preferred stock .....	--
Common stock, \$.01 par value per share, 100,000,000 shares authorized, 49,635,848 shares outstanding at September 30, 2001 and 48,600,000 shares outstanding at December 31, 2000 .....	496
Additional paid-in capital .....	180,041
Retained earnings .....	165,407
Accumulated other comprehensive income .....	(121)
Due from key employees for stock purchase program .....	(488)
Capital contribution receivable from shareholders .....	(1,244)
	-----
Total stockholders' equity .....	344,091
	-----
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity .....	\$421,995 =====

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(1) The consolidated balance sheet at December 31, 2000 has been derived from the Company's audited consolidated financial statements at that date, but

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does not include all of the information and footnotes required by generally accepted accounting principles for complete financial statements.

See notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

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### Orthodontic Centers of America, Inc.

#### Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income (Unaudited)

	Nine months ended September 30,	
	2001	2000
	----- (in thousands, except per share data) -----	
Fee revenue .....	\$246,552	\$194,849
Direct expenses:		
Employee costs .....	71,011	57,240
Orthodontic supplies .....	19,718	15,517
Rent .....	21,597	17,471
Marketing and advertising .....	19,980	16,202
	-----	-----
Total direct expenses .....	132,306	106,430
General and administrative .....	26,939	20,894
Depreciation and amortization .....	13,504	11,056
	-----	-----
Operating profit .....	73,803	56,469
Interest expense, net .....	3,352	2,917
Non-controlling interest in subsidiary .....	47	--
	-----	-----
Income before income taxes .....	70,404	53,552
Provision for income taxes .....	26,578	20,163
	-----	-----
Income before cumulative effect of change in accounting principle .....	43,826	33,389
Cumulative effect of change in accounting principle, net of income tax benefit .....	--	(50,576)
	-----	-----
Net income (loss) .....	\$ 43,826	\$(17,187)
	=====	=====
Net income (loss) per share:		
Basic before cumulative effect of change in accounting principle .....	\$ 0.90	\$ 0.69
Cumulative effect of change in accounting principal, net of income tax benefit, per share .....	--	(1.05)
	-----	-----
Basic .....	\$ 0.90	\$ (0.36)
	=====	=====
Diluted before cumulative effect of change in accounting principle .....	\$ 0.87	\$ 0.67
Cumulative effect of change in accounting principle, net of income tax benefit, per share .....	--	(1.02)
	-----	-----

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Diluted .....	\$ 0.87	\$ (0.35)
	=====	=====
Average shares outstanding:		
Basic .....	48,863	48,343
	=====	=====
Diluted .....	50,133	49,482
	=====	=====

See notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

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Orthodontic Centers of America, Inc.

Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income (Unaudited)

	Three months ended September 30,	
	2001	2000
	-----	-----
	(in thousands, except per share data)	
Fee revenue .....	\$86,840	\$69,725
Direct expenses:		
Employee costs .....	25,359	20,623
Orthodontic supplies .....	7,025	5,736
Rent .....	7,709	6,276
Marketing and advertising .....	7,282	6,030
	-----	-----
Total direct expenses .....	47,375	38,665
General and administrative .....	9,521	7,462
Depreciation and amortization .....	4,490	3,846
	-----	-----
Operating profit .....	25,454	19,752
Interest expense, net .....	1,105	1,152
Non-controlling interest in subsidiary .....	(33)	--
	-----	-----
Income before income taxes .....	24,382	18,600
Provision for income taxes .....	9,204	7,022
	-----	-----
Net income .....	\$15,178	\$11,578
	=====	=====
Net income per share:		
Basic .....	\$ 0.31	\$ 0.24
	=====	=====
Diluted .....	\$ 0.30	\$ 0.23
	=====	=====
Average shares outstanding:		
Basic .....	48,962	48,503
	=====	=====

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Diluted .....	50,123	49,967
	=====	=====

See notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

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Orthodontic Centers of America, Inc.

Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows (Unaudited)

	Nine months e September 3 ----- 2001 ----- (in thousan
Operating activities:	
Net income (loss) .....	\$ 43,826
Adjustments to reconcile net income (loss) to net cash provided by operating activities:	
Provision for bad debt expense .....	416
Depreciation and amortization .....	13,504
Deferred income taxes .....	--
Cumulative effect of change in accounting principle, net of income tax benefit .....	--
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:	
Service fees receivable .....	(15,823)
Supplies inventory .....	(1,283)
Prepaid expenses and other .....	(4,134)
Advances/amounts payable to orthodontic entities .....	(2,261)
Accounts payable and other current liabilities .....	1,669
Net cash provided by operating activities .....	35,914
Investing activities:	
Purchases of property, equipment and improvements .....	(19,565)
Proceeds from sales of available-for-sale investments .....	999
Intangible assets acquired .....	(17,701)
Net cash used in investing activities .....	(36,267)
Financing activities:	
Proceeds from long-term debt .....	3,128
Repayment of long-term debt .....	(8,966)
Issuance of common stock .....	12,634

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Net cash provided by financing activities .....	6,796
Change in cash and cash equivalents .....	6,443
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period .....	4,690
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period .....	\$ 11,133
Supplemental cash flow information:	
Cash paid during period for:	
Interest .....	\$ 3,414
Income taxes .....	\$ 29,714
Supplemental disclosures of non-cash investing and financing activities:	
Notes payable and common stock issued to obtain service agreements .....	\$ 796

See notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

Orthodontic Centers of America, Inc.

Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Unaudited)

September 30, 2001

1. DESCRIPTION OF BUSINESS AND BASIS OF PRESENTATION

Orthodontic Centers of America, Inc. (the "Company") provides integrated business services to orthodontists throughout the United States and in Japan, Mexico, Puerto Rico and Spain.

The accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles for interim financial information and with the instructions to Form 10-Q and Article 10 of Regulation S-X. Accordingly, they do not include all of the information and footnotes required by generally accepted accounting principles for complete financial statements. In the opinion of management, all adjustments considered necessary for a fair presentation have been included. Operating results for the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2001 are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for the year ending December 31, 2001. For further information, refer to the consolidated financial statements and footnotes thereto included in the Company's



most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K.

The Company provides business operations, financial, marketing and administrative services to orthodontic practices. These services are provided under management and consulting agreements (hereinafter referred to as "Service Agreements") with the orthodontist and their wholly-owned orthodontic entities (hereinafter referred to as "Affiliated Orthodontists").

The financial statements include service fees earned under the Service Agreements and the expenses of providing the Company's services, which generally includes all expenses of the orthodontic practices except for orthodontist compensation and certain expenses directly related to the orthodontic entities, such as professional insurance coverage.

2. REVENUE RECOGNITION

Fee revenue consists of service fees earned by the Company under the Service Agreements. Effective January 1, 2000, the Company changed its method of revenue recognition for service fees earned under its Service Agreements with Affiliated Orthodontists. Fee revenue is recognized as service fees are contractually due under the Company's Service Agreements, except that recognition of a portion of the service fees is deferred because patient contract revenues are calculated on a straight-line basis over the term of the patient contracts and are reduced by amounts to be retained by Affiliated Orthodontists. The amounts to be retained by Affiliated Orthodontists is the Company's estimate of the Affiliated Orthodontists' proportionate share of straight-line patient contract revenues, reduced by the amount of Company expenses incurred and not yet reimbursed by the Affiliated Orthodontists. In addition, newly developed orthodontic centers typically generate operating losses during their initial 12 months of operations. Under the terms of the Company's Service Agreements, the Company is entitled to service fees relating to operating losses as the losses are incurred; however, the Company defers recognition of fee revenue relating to operating losses generated by an affiliated practice to the extent that service fees relating to such operating losses are not collateralized by the Affiliated Orthodontist's patient fees receivable.

Orthodontic Centers of America, Inc.

Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Unaudited) (continued)

Affiliated Orthodontists typically pledge their billed and unbilled patient fees receivable to the Company as collateral for the Company's service fees. The Company is responsible for billing and collection of the patient fees receivable, which are conducted in the name of the applicable Affiliated Orthodontist. Collections from patient fees receivable are generally deposited into depository bank accounts that the Company establishes and maintains.

The Company generally collects its service fees receivable from funds that are collected from patient fees receivable and deposited into

depository bank accounts. This results in deferral of collection of a portion of the Company's service fees receivable until the related patient fees receivable that have been pledged to the Company are collected and the funds are deposited into a depository bank account. This deferral is generally for a period that averages less than 90 days, as patient fees receivable are generally collected within that period of time. The Company does not generally charge Affiliated Orthodontists any interest on these deferred balances of service fees receivable. For newly-developed centers (which typically generate operating losses during their first 12 months of operations), the Company generally defers payment of a portion of its service fees relating to unreimbursed expenses over a five-year period that generally commences in the second year of the center's operations, and charges the Affiliated Orthodontists interest on those deferred amounts at market rates. Under the Company's revenue recognition policy, those unreimbursed expenses are not recognized as revenue or recorded as service fees receivable until such revenue is collateralized by patient fees receivable pledged by Affiliated Orthodontists. Pledged patient fees receivable which prove to be uncollectible have the effect of reducing the amount of service fees receivable collected by the Company.

In some cases, the Company assists Affiliated Orthodontists in obtaining financing for their share of operating expenses by providing a guaranty of loans from a third-party lender. Information about amounts guaranteed by the Company is provided in "MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS - LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES."

3. INTANGIBLE ASSETS

The Company affiliates with a practicing orthodontist by acquiring substantially all of the non-professional assets of the orthodontist's practice, either directly or indirectly through a stock purchase, and entering into a Service Agreement with the orthodontist. The terms of the Service Agreements range from 20 to 40 years, with most ranging from 20 to 25 years. The acquired assets generally consist of equipment, furniture, fixtures and leasehold interests. The Company records these acquired tangible assets at their fair value as of the date of acquisition, and depreciates or amortizes the acquired assets using the straight-line method over their useful lives. The remainder of the purchase price is allocated to an intangible asset, which represents the costs of obtaining the Service Agreement, pursuant to which the Company obtains the exclusive right to provide business operations, financial, marketing and administrative services to the orthodontist during the term of the Service Agreement. In the event the Service Agreement is terminated, the related orthodontic entity is generally required to purchase all of the related assets, including the unamortized portion of intangible assets, at the current book value.

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Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Unaudited) (continued)

The Company may issue shares of its common stock as consideration when it acquires the assets of and enters into Service Agreements with practicing orthodontists. The Company values the shares of stock issued in these transactions at the average closing market price during a few days prior to the date on which the particular transaction is closed.

Service Agreements are amortized over the shorter of their term or 25 years. Amortization expense for the three months ended September 30, 2001 and 2000 was \$2.0 million and \$1.7 million respectively. Accumulated amortization was \$26.8 million and \$20.7 million as of September 30, 2001 and December 31, 2000, respectively. Intangible assets and the related accumulated amortization are written off when fully amortized.

#### 4. EARNINGS PER SHARE

Basic and diluted earnings per share are based on the weighted average number of shares of common stock and common equivalent shares (stock options) outstanding during the period.

#### 5. CHANGE IN ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLE

Effective January 1, 2000, the Company adopted a change in accounting for revenue in connection with Securities and Exchange Commission Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 101 (SAB 101), "Revenue Recognition in Financial Statements." The cumulative effect of this accounting change, calculated as of January 1, 2000, was \$50.6 million, net of income tax benefit of \$30.6 million. The Company recognized revenue that was included in the cumulative effect adjustment of \$22.1 million during the nine months ended September 30, 2001 and \$45.4 million during the nine months ended September 30, 2000.

#### 6. NEW ACCOUNTING PRONOUNCEMENTS

The Company adopted Financial Accounting Standards Board Statement FASB No. 133, "Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities," as amended, on January 1, 2001. As the Company had no derivatives at the date of adoption, there was no financial statement impact.

In June 2001, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued Statements of Financial Accounting Standards No. 141, "Business Combinations," and No. 142, "Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets," effective for fiscal years beginning after December 31, 2001. SFAS No. 141 requires that the purchase method of accounting be used for all business combinations initiated after June 30, 2001, and prohibits the use of the pooling-of-interests method for such transactions. SFAS 142 requires that goodwill and intangible assets with indefinite lives, including such assets recorded in past business combinations, no longer be amortized to earnings, but instead be tested for impairment annually. Intangible assets with finite lives will continue to be amortized over their useful lives and reviewed for impairment in accordance with SFAS No. 121, "Accounting for the Impairment of Long-Lived Assets and for Long-Lived Assets to be Disposed Of." The Company will adopt SFAS No. 142 on January 1, 2002, and amortization of goodwill and intangible assets with indefinite lives acquired prior to July 1, 2001 would cease upon such adoption. The Company anticipates that it would apply provisions of SFAS No. 141 and No. 142 in recording the Company's proposed business combination with OrthAlliance, Inc. The Company has not yet determined the impact that these statements on

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accounting standards will have on the Company's consolidated financial position or results of operations.

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### ITEM 2. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

#### GENERAL

The Company's business was established in 1985 by Dr. Gasper Lazzara, Jr. and Bartholomew F. Palmisano, Sr. The Company managed 621 orthodontic centers (the "Orthodontic Centers") throughout the United States and in Japan, Mexico, Puerto Rico and Spain at September 30, 2001.

The following table sets forth certain information relating to the growth in the number of Orthodontic Centers for the periods shown:

	Year ended December 31,			
	1996	1997	1998	1999
	----	----	----	----
Number of centers at beginning of period ...	145	247	360	469
Number of centers developed during period ..	53	58	54	36
Number of centers acquired during period ...	68	78	66	32
Number of centers consolidated during period	(19)	(23)	(11)	--
	----	----	----	----
Number of centers at end of period .....	247	360	469	537
	====	====	====	====

Of the 621 Orthodontic Centers at September 30, 2001, 332 were developed by the Company, 365 were existing orthodontic practices the assets of which were acquired by the Company and 76 were consolidated into another Orthodontic Center. The Company expects that future growth in the number of Orthodontic Centers will come from both developing Orthodontic Centers with existing and newly recruited orthodontists affiliated with the Company ("Affiliated Orthodontists") and acquiring the assets of, and entering into service and consulting agreements with, existing orthodontic practices.

Generally, when the Company develops a new Orthodontic Center, all patients treated at the Orthodontic Center are new patients and, in the first several months after commencing operations, the Orthodontic Center is open only for a limited number of days each month as new patients are added. The Orthodontic Centers have generally become increasingly more productive and profitable as more new patients are added and existing patients return for monthly follow-up visits. After 26 months of operations, the Orthodontic Center's growth in patient base has typically begun to stabilize as the initial patients complete treatment. At that point, an Orthodontic Center can increase the number of patients treated by improving the efficiency of its clinical staff, increasing patient treatment intervals and by adding operating days or orthodontists.

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The Orthodontic Centers may also increase revenue by implementing periodic price increases. Patient contracts are generally payable in equal monthly installments throughout the term of treatment (which averages about 26 months), except for the last month when a final payment is made. During the first quarter of 2000, approximately 30% of the Orthodontic Centers implemented a fee increase from \$109 per month to \$119 per month, with an increase in the final payment from \$436 to \$476. In the first nine months of 2001, an additional 33% of the Orthodontic Centers implemented such fee increase.

The Company provides a wide range of services to its Affiliated Orthodontists under either a service agreement or a consulting agreement. The specific form of the agreement is based upon the dental regulatory provisions of the particular state in which an orthodontic center is located. The service agreement is used in the majority of states, with some minor variations from state to state. The consulting agreement, also with some variations from state to state, is used in states with particularly stringent laws relating to the practice of dentistry. The Company enters into a separate service or consulting agreement with each Affiliated Orthodontist practice owner. If an Affiliated Orthodontist operates his or her practice

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through a professional corporation or association or other similar entity, that entity is a party to the agreement, as well as the Affiliated Orthodontist practice owner.

Under the service agreement, the Company provides its Affiliated Orthodontists with a comprehensive range of business services in exchange for monthly service fees based on a percentage of the Affiliated Orthodontists' new patient contract balances during the first month of the term of the patient contract, plus the balance of the patient contract balance allocated equally over the remaining term of the patient contract, minus amounts retained by the Affiliated Orthodontists. These service fees generally represent reimbursement of direct and indirect expenses that the Company incurs in providing services to an Affiliated Orthodontist (including employee costs, marketing and advertising costs, office rent, utilities expense, supply costs and general and administrative expenses), a percentage of the operating profits of the Affiliated Orthodontist's practice on a cash basis and, in some cases, hourly-based service fees. Excluding reimbursement of direct and indirect expenses and any hourly-based service fees, the Company's service fees generally range from 40% to 50% of a mature practice's cash operating profits (in some cases, after reduction for any hourly-based service fees or hourly-based amounts retained by an Affiliated Orthodontist).

The types of services the Company provides to Affiliated Orthodontists under the consulting agreements are generally similar to the services the Company provides under the service agreements. Fees paid to the Company by Affiliated Orthodontists under the consulting agreements are a combination of, depending on the service being performed, cost-based types of fees, flat monthly fees and hourly fees. Among other differences from the service agreements, some consulting agreements have shorter terms than the service agreements, some do not give the Company a right to purchase the Affiliated Orthodontist's interest in the practice assets following termination, no matter the reason, and some require more limited non-competition agreements from the Affiliated Orthodontist after termination of the consulting agreement than do most of the service agreements. In addition, the consulting agreements emphasize that the Affiliated Orthodontist has ultimate control and authority over his or her practice's business management, including such matters as advertising, hiring and termination of staff and the purchase of equipment and supplies.

Affiliated Orthodontists generally pledge to the Company the Affiliated Orthodontists' patient fees receivable arising from the provision of orthodontic services during each month. These patient fees receivable include billed receivables, which represent amounts owed for orthodontic services for which the patient has been billed, and unbilled receivables, which represent amounts owed for orthodontic services for which the patient has not yet been billed. Laws governing the practice of dentistry (including orthodontics) and the policies of state dental boards in states in which the Company operates generally restrict its ability to own these patient fees receivable, and require that patient fees receivable be billed and collected in the name of the Affiliated Orthodontists and that, at least initially, collections from patient fees receivable belong to the Affiliated Orthodontist. This would restrict the Company's ability to sell, factor or transfer these pledged patient fees receivable. The Company is responsible for billing and collecting these patient fees receivable, which are done in the name of the applicable Affiliated Orthodontist. Once funds are collected in payment of patient fees receivable, the funds are generally deposited into a bank account that the Company establishes and maintains. The Company generally has sole signatory authority over these bank accounts and the exclusive responsibility for any disbursements. Affiliated Orthodontists generally agree that they will not modify, close or withdraw any funds from these bank accounts. The Company sweeps funds deposited into these accounts into its central bank account on a regular basis. Collections from patient fees receivable are included in determining a practice's cash operating profits for purposes of calculating amounts retained by an Affiliated Orthodontist under the terms of his or her service agreement with us. Generally, an Affiliated Orthodontist retains 50% to 60% of his or her practice's cash operating profits (in some cases after reduction for any hourly-based service fees or hourly-based amounts retained by the Affiliated Orthodontist) plus any hourly-based amounts retained by the Affiliated Orthodontist.

Effective January 1, 2000, the Company changed its revenue recognition pursuant to Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 101, "Revenue Recognition in Financial Statements" ("SAB 101"). SAB 101 summarizes certain of the Securities and Exchange Commission staff's views in applying generally accepted accounting principles to revenue recognition in financial statements. Effective January 1, 2000, the Company recognizes revenue based on a straight-line allocation of patient contract revenue over the terms of the patient contracts (which average about 26 months), minus the portion of that straight-line allocation retained or to be retained by Affiliated Orthodontists. Amounts retained or to be retained by an Affiliated Orthodontist are estimated using the percentage of practice operating profits that may be retained by the Affiliated Orthodontist under his or her service agreement. Amounts retained or that may be retained by an Affiliated Orthodontist equal the Affiliated Orthodontist's proportionate share of the straight-line allocation of patient contract revenue that is collected during the relevant period and the Affiliated Orthodontist's proportionate share of patient receivables representing any remaining portion of that allocation, minus any operating losses, depreciation, interest on outstanding loans, bad debt or other expenses that the Company has incurred but for which the Company has not been reimbursed by the Affiliated Orthodontist. These unreimbursed expenses reduce amounts retained by an Affiliated Orthodontist only up to the amounts that would otherwise be retained by the Affiliated Orthodontist. Any remaining unreimbursed expenses would reduce amounts retained or to be retained by the Affiliated Orthodontist in subsequent periods.

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Operating expenses of the Orthodontic Centers are the Company's expenses and are recognized as incurred. Employee costs consist of wages, salaries and benefits paid to all of the Company's employees, including orthodontic assistants, business staff and management personnel. General and administrative expenses consist of provision for losses on receivables, professional service fees, maintenance and utility costs, office supply expense, telephone expense, taxes, license fees, printing expense and shipping expense.

The Company does not have a controlling financial interest in its Affiliated Orthodontists' practices. In accordance with guidance in Emerging Issues Task Force No. 97-2, the Company does not consolidate the patient revenue and other operations and accounts of its Affiliated Orthodontists within the Company's financial statements.

### BUSINESS COMBINATION WITH ORTHALLIANCE

On May 16, 2001, the Company entered into a merger agreement with OrthAlliance, Inc., whereby a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company would merge into OrthAlliance and OrthAlliance would become a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company. In the merger, stockholders of OrthAlliance would receive shares of the Company's common stock in exchange for their shares of OrthAlliance common stock, except for holders of OrthAlliance Class B common stock who properly exercise their appraisal rights under Delaware law. The transaction, which is subject to approval by OrthAlliance stockholders and other conditions, is currently anticipated to close in November 2001 and to be accounted for as a purchase. OrthAlliance has scheduled a special meeting of its shareholders to be held on November 7, 2001, at which OrthAlliance shareholders are to consider and vote upon a proposal to approve the merger agreement. OrthAlliance is a leading provider of practice management and consulting services to orthodontic and pediatric dental practices in the United States.

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### RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The following table sets forth the percentages of fee revenue represented by certain items in the Company's condensed consolidated statements of income.

	Nine months ended September 30,		Three months ended September 30,	
	2001	2000	2001	2000
Fee revenue .....	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Direct expenses:				
Employee costs .....	28.8	29.4	29.2	29.6
Orthodontic supplies .....	8.0	8.0	8.1	8.2
Rent .....	8.8	9.0	8.9	9.0
Marketing and advertising .....	8.1	8.2	8.4	8.7

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Total direct expenses .....	53.7	54.6	54.6	55.5
General and administrative .....	10.9	10.7	11.0	10.7
Depreciation and amortization .....	5.5	5.7	5.1	5.5
Operating profit .....	29.9	29.0	29.3	28.3
Interest expense .....	1.3	1.5	1.2	1.6
Non-controlling interest .....	--	--	--	--
Income before income taxes .....	28.6	27.5	28.1	26.7
Provision for income taxes .....	10.8	10.4	10.6	10.1
Income before cumulative effect of change in accounting principle .....	17.8	17.1	17.5	16.6
Cumulative effect of change in accounting principle, net of income tax benefit	--	(25.9)	--	--
Net income (loss) .....	17.8%	(8.8%)	17.5%	16.6%

NINE MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2001 COMPARED TO NINE MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2000

FEE REVENUE

Fee revenue increased \$51.7 million, or 26.5%, to \$246.6 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2001 from \$194.8 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2000. Approximately \$40.7 million of this increase was attributable to the growth of fee revenue of Orthodontic Centers open throughout both periods, and approximately \$11.0 million of the increase was attributable to the growth in fee revenue of Orthodontic Centers opened since January 1, 2000. The number of the Affiliated Orthodontists' patient contracts increased to approximately 401,000 at September 30, 2001 from approximately 327,000 at September 30, 2000. The Company recognized revenue that was included in the cumulative effect adjustment of \$22.1 million during the nine months ended September 30, 2001 and \$45.4 million during the nine months ended September 30, 2000.

EMPLOYEE COSTS

Employee costs increased \$13.8 million, or 24.1 %, to \$71.1 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2001 from \$57.2 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2000. As a percentage of fee revenue, however, employee costs decreased to 28.8% for the nine months ended September 30, 2001 from 29.4% for the nine months ended September 30, 2000, primarily due to efficiencies achieved through a general change to longer patient treatment intervals by the Affiliated Orthodontists, which resulted in fewer treatments per patient contract and lower employee costs per patient. As a result of developments in orthodontic technology, a patient may be seen every six to eight weeks, rather than the

traditional four weeks, without compromising quality of care. Consistent with industry trends, the Affiliated Orthodontists have begun increasing the intervals between patient treatments. Patients who received orthodontic treatment in the Orthodontic Centers during the nine months ended September 30, 2001 averaged 45.9 days between office visits, compared to an average of 43.9



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days for patients who received treatment during the nine months ended September 30, 2000. This increase in patient treatment interval reduces the number of office visits during the term of a patient's treatment, which continues to average about 26 months, and results in lower employee costs per patient. The increased interval does not, however, reduce the amount of treatment fees per patient. Therefore, the increased interval reduces the employee costs incurred with respect to an individual patient relative to the patient's treatment fee.

### ORTHODONTIC SUPPLIES

Orthodontic supplies expense increased \$4.2 million, or 27.1%, to \$19.7 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2001 from \$15.5 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2000. As a percentage of fee revenue, orthodontic supplies expense remained at 8.0% for the nine months ended September 30, 2001 and 2000.

### RENT

Rent expense increased \$4.1 million, or 23.6%, to \$21.6 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2001 from \$17.5 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2000, primarily due to Orthodontic Centers affiliated, opened or relocated after September 30, 2000. As a percentage of fee revenue, however, rent expense decreased to 8.8% for the nine months ended September 30, 2001 from 9.0% for the nine months ended September 30, 2000.

### MARKETING AND ADVERTISING

Marketing and advertising expense increased \$3.8 million, or 23.3%, to \$20.0 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2001 from \$16.2 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2000, primarily due to increases in marketing and advertising related to growth in fee revenue for existing Orthodontic Centers and marketing and advertising for Orthodontic Centers added after September 30, 2000. As a percentage of fee revenue, however, marketing and advertising expense decreased to 8.1% for the nine months ended September 30, 2001 from 8.2% for the nine months ended September 30, 2000.

### GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE

General and administrative expense increased \$6.0 million, or 28.9%, to \$26.9 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2001 from \$20.9 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2000, primarily due to the addition of Orthodontic Centers and increases in the Affiliated Orthodontists' patient base after September 30, 2000. As a percentage of fee revenue, general and administrative expense increased to 10.9% for the nine months ended September 30, 2001 from 10.7% for the nine months ended September 30, 2000, primarily due to accounting and legal costs associated with the Company's proposed business combination with OrthAlliance.

### DEPRECIATION AND AMORTIZATION

Depreciation and amortization expense increased \$2.4 million, or 22.1%, to \$13.5 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2001 from \$11.1 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2000, due to fixed assets acquired and service agreements entered into for Orthodontic Centers developed, acquired or relocated after September 30, 2000. As a percentage of fee revenue, however, depreciation and amortization expense decreased to 5.5% for the nine months ended September 30, 2001 from 5.7% for the nine months ended September 30, 2000.

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### OPERATING PROFIT

Operating profit increased \$17.3 million, or 30.6%, to \$73.8 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2001 from \$56.5 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2000. As a percentage of fee revenue, operating profit increased to 29.9% for the nine months ended September 30, 2001 from 29.0% for the nine months ended September 30, 2000, as a result of the factors discussed above.

### INTEREST

Net interest expense increased \$435,000, or 14.9%, to \$3.4 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2001 from \$2.9 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2000, due to an increase since September 30, 2000 in the average balance of borrowings under the Company's \$100.0 million revolving line of credit associated with expansion in new and existing markets in the United States and foreign countries. As a percentage of fee revenue, net interest expense decreased to 1.3% for the nine months ended September 30, 2001 from 1.5% for the nine months ended September 30, 2000.

### NON-CONTROLLING INTEREST

In the first quarter of 2001, the Company finalized an arrangement with its Affiliated Orthodontists in Japan pursuant to which these Affiliated Orthodontists acquired a 16% ownership interest in the Company's Japanese subsidiary.

### PROVISION FOR INCOME TAXES

Provision for income taxes increased \$6.4 million, or 31.8%, to \$26.6 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2001 from \$20.2 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2000. The Company's effective income tax rate was 37.8% for the nine months ended September 30, 2001 and 2000. The Company's change in accounting principle pursuant to SAB 101 effective January 1, 2000 resulted in deferred tax assets of \$25.5 million as of September 30, 2001, because the Company has not received approval from taxing authorities to change its tax accounting method of recognizing revenue. The Company cannot assure you that it will receive any such approval. Failure to obtain this approval could have an adverse effect on the Company's cash flow from operating activities. The Company has provided no valuation allowance for deferred tax assets. The Company believes that the deferred tax assets at September 30, 2001 are realizable through carrybacks and future reversals of existing taxable temporary differences.

### CUMULATIVE EFFECT OF A CHANGE IN ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLE

Effective January 1, 2000, the Company recorded a cumulative effect of a change in accounting principle of \$50.6 million, net of an income tax benefit of \$30.6 million, with respect to the Company's change in revenue recognition effective as of January 1, 2000 pursuant to SAB 101.

### NET INCOME (LOSS)

Net income increased \$61.0 million, or 355.0%, to \$43.8 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2001 from a net loss of \$17.2 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2000. As a percentage of fee revenue, net income after the cumulative effect of change in accounting principle increased to 17.8% for the nine months ended September 30, 2001 from (8.8)% for the nine months ended September 30, 2000, as a result of the factors discussed above.

THREE MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2001 COMPARED TO THREE MONTHS ENDED  
SEPTEMBER 30, 2000

FEE REVENUE

Fee revenue increased \$17.1 million, or 24.5%, to \$86.8 million for the three months ended September 30, 2001 from \$69.7 million for the three months ended September 30, 2000. Approximately \$13.9 million of this increase was attributable to the growth of fee revenue of Orthodontic Centers open throughout both periods, and approximately \$3.2 million of the increase was attributable to the growth in fee revenue of Orthodontic Centers opened since September 30, 2000. The Company recognized revenue that was included in the cumulative effect adjustment of \$5.2 million during the three months ended September 30, 2001 and \$13.5 million during the three months ended September 30, 2000.

EMPLOYEE COSTS

Employee costs increased \$4.7 million, or 23.0%, to \$25.4 million for the three months ended September 30, 2001 from \$20.6 million for the three months ended September 30, 2000. As a percentage of fee revenue, however, employee costs decreased to 29.2% for the three months ended September 30, 2001 from 29.6% for the three months ended September 30, 2000, primarily due to efficiencies achieved through a general change to longer patient treatment intervals by the Affiliated Orthodontists, which resulted in fewer treatments per patient contract and lower employee costs per patient. As a result of developments in orthodontic technology, a patient may be seen every six to eight weeks, rather than the traditional four weeks, without compromising quality of care. Consistent with industry trends, the Affiliated Orthodontists have begun increasing the intervals between patient treatments. This increase in patient treatment interval reduces the number of office visits during the term of a patient's treatment, which continues to average about 26 months, and results in lower employee costs per patient. The increased interval does not, however, reduce the amount of treatment fees per patient. Therefore, the increased interval reduces the employee costs incurred with respect to an individual patient relative to the patient's treatment fee.

ORTHODONTIC SUPPLIES

Orthodontic supplies expense increased \$1.3 million, or 22.5%, to \$7.0 million for the three months ended September 30, 2001 from \$5.7 million for the three months ended September 30, 2000. As a percentage of fee revenue, orthodontic supplies expense decreased to 8.1% for the three months ended September 30, 2001 from 8.2% for the three months ended September 30, 2000.

RENT

Rent expense increased \$1.4 million, or 22.8%, to \$7.7 million for the three months ended September 30, 2001 from \$6.3 million for the three months ended September 30, 2000, primarily due to Orthodontic Centers affiliated, opened or relocated after September 30, 2000. As a percentage of fee revenue, however, rent expense decreased to 8.9% for the three months ended September 30, 2001 from 9.0% for the three months ended September 30, 2000.

MARKETING AND ADVERTISING

Marketing and advertising expense increased \$1.3 million, or 20.8%, to \$7.3 million for the three months ended September 30, 2001 from \$6.0 million for the three months ended September 30, 2000, primarily due to increases in marketing

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and advertising related to growth in fee revenue for existing Orthodontic Centers and marketing and advertising for Orthodontic Centers added after September 30, 2000. As a percentage of fee revenue, however, marketing and advertising expense decreased to 8.4% for the three months ended September 30, 2001 from 8.7% for the three months ended September 30, 2000.

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### GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE

General and administrative expense increased \$2.1 million, or 27.6%, to \$9.5 million for the three months ended September 30, 2001 from \$7.5 million for the three months ended September 30, 2000, primarily due to the addition of Orthodontic Centers and increases in the Affiliated Orthodontists' patient base after September 30, 2000. As a percentage of fee revenue, general and administrative expense increased to 11.0% for the three months ended September 30, 2001 from 10.7% for the three months ended September 30, 2000, primarily due to accounting and legal costs associated with the Company's proposed business combination with OrthAlliance.

### DEPRECIATION AND AMORTIZATION

Depreciation and amortization expense increased \$644,000, or 16.7%, to \$4.5 million for the three months ended September 30, 2001 from \$3.8 million for the three months ended September 30, 2000, due to fixed assets acquired and service agreements entered into for Orthodontic Centers developed, acquired or relocated after September 30, 2000. As a percentage of fee revenue, depreciation and amortization expense decreased to 5.1% for the three months ended September 30, 2001 from 5.5% for the three months ended September 30, 2000.

### OPERATING PROFIT

Operating profit increased \$5.7 million, or 28.9%, to \$25.5 million for the three months ended September 30, 2001 from \$19.8 million for the three months ended September 30, 2000. As a percentage of fee revenue, operating profit increased to 29.3% for the three months ended September 30, 2001 from 28.3% for the three months ended September 30, 2000, as a result of the factors discussed above.

### NON-CONTROLLING INTEREST

In the first quarter of 2001, the Company finalized an arrangement with its Affiliated Orthodontists in Japan pursuant to which these Affiliated Orthodontists acquired a 16% ownership interest in the Company's Japanese subsidiary.

### PROVISION FOR INCOME TAXES

Provision for income taxes increased \$2.2 million, or 31.1%, to \$9.2 million for the three months ended September 30, 2001 from \$7.0 million for the three months ended September 30, 2000. The Company's effective income tax rate was 37.8% for the three months ended September 30, 2001 and 2000. The Company's change in accounting principle pursuant to SAB 101 effective January 1, 2000 resulted in deferred tax assets of \$25.5 million as of September 30, 2001, because the Company has not received approval from taxing authorities to change our tax accounting method of recognizing revenue. The Company cannot assure you that it will receive any such approval. Failure to obtain this approval could have an

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adverse effect on the Company's cash flow from operating activities. The Company has provided no valuation allowance for deferred tax assets. The Company believes that the deferred tax assets at September 30, 2001 are realizable through carrybacks and future reversals of existing taxable temporary differences.

### NET INCOME

Net income increased \$3.6 million, or 31.1%, to \$15.2 million for the three months ended September 30, 2001 from \$11.6 million for the three months ended September 30, 2000. As a percentage of fee revenue, net income increased to 17.5% for the three months ended September 30, 2001 from 16.6% for the three months ended September 30, 2000.

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### LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

The following table summarizes cash flow information for the Company at September 30, 2001, and 2000:

	Nine months ended September 30	
	2001	2000
	----	----
Net cash provided by operating activities.....	\$ 35.9 million	\$ 29.6
Net cash used in investing activities.....	\$ (36.3) million	\$ (29.6)
Net cash provided by financing activities.....	\$ 6.8 million	\$ 1.5

Net cash provided by operating activities increased during the nine months ended September 30, 2001, as compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2000, primarily due to increased net income during the first nine months of 2001, as compared to the same period of 2000. The Company's working capital at September 30, 2001 was \$63.3 million, an increase of \$23.7 million, or 59.8%, from \$39.6 million at December 31, 2000, including cash and cash equivalents of \$11.1 million at September 30, 2001, compared to \$4.7 million at December 31, 2000. Net cash provided by financing activities increased during the nine months ended September 30, 2001, as compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2000, primarily due to increased issuance of the Company's common stock related to the exercise of stock options during the first nine months of 2001, as compared to the same period of 2000. The Company used the proceeds from the exercise of these options to repay a portion of the indebtedness outstanding under the Company's revolving line of credit.

The Company's capital expenditures consist primarily of the costs associated with the development of additional Orthodontic Centers. The average cost of developing a new Orthodontic Center in the United States is about \$325,000, which includes capitalizable costs of equipment and leasehold improvements, as well as working capital and start-up losses associated with the initial operations of the Orthodontic Center. These costs are shared by the Company and the particular Affiliated Orthodontist. The Company bears an Affiliated Orthodontist's share of these costs until it is reimbursed by the Affiliated

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Orthodontist. In some cases, the Company assists Affiliated Orthodontists in obtaining financing for their share of these costs by providing a guaranty of loans from the Company's primary lender. At September 30, 2001, the outstanding balance of these amounts guaranteed by the Company was \$2.2 million, compared to about \$2.9 million at December 31, 2000. The Company also intends to continue to make advances of about \$40,000 to newly-affiliated Affiliated Orthodontists during the first year of an Orthodontic Center's operations, which advances bear no interest and typically are repaid during the second year of the Orthodontic Center's operations. The Company intends to fund these advances and any continued financing through a combination of bank borrowings and cash from operations.

In October 1998, the Company entered into a \$100.0 million revolving line of credit with a lending group that currently consists of First Union National Bank, Bank of America FSB, Bank One, N.A., Hibernia National Bank and Wachovia Bank, N.A. The line of credit provides an aggregate of \$100.0 million for general working capital needs and expansion of the number of orthodontic centers, and bears interest at varying rates above the lender's prime rate or LIBOR. Amounts borrowed under the line of credit are secured by a security interest in all of the Company's assets, including its accounts receivable and equipment. At September 30, 2001, \$53.9 million of indebtedness was outstanding under the line of credit, compared to \$57.4 million at December 31, 2000.

The Company expects to require cash in the future primarily for developing additional Orthodontic Centers, acquiring assets from and affiliating with additional orthodontists, capital expenditures, repayment of long-term debt, payment of income taxes and general corporate purposes. In addition, in the merger agreement with OrthAlliance, Inc., the Company agreed that, at the effective time of the proposed merger with OrthAlliance, the Company would pay in full all borrowings and accrued interest owing under OrthAlliance's revolving line of credit. The Company is currently making arrangements to

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finance the repayment of the amounts owed under OrthAlliance's revolving line of credit, concurrent with completion of the proposed merger.

The Company's cash needs could significantly change depending upon its ability to recruit orthodontists, find appropriate sites, enter into long-term service or consulting agreements and acquire the assets of existing orthodontic practices. The Company believes that the combination of funds available under its revolving line of credit, any additional credit facility or other borrowings and cash flow from operations will be sufficient to meet its anticipated funding requirements during the remainder of 2001.

### ITEM 3. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

During the nine months ended September 30, 2001, there were no material changes to the quantitative and qualitative disclosures about market risks presented in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2000.

PART II. OTHER INFORMATION

ITEM 1. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

On October 15, 1999, Sam Callender, D.D.S. and his limited liability company, Colorado Orthodontics, LLC, filed an action in the District Court of the City and County of Denver, Colorado against the Company, its wholly-owned subsidiary, Orthodontic Centers of Colorado, Inc. ("OCA-Colorado"), and Dr. Ronald M. Roncone. On August 14, 2000, the plaintiffs amended their complaint to add Bartholomew F. Palmisano, Sr. as a defendant in the action. On November 19, 1999, the lawsuit was removed to the United States District Court for the District of Colorado. In their complaint, the plaintiffs alleged that the Company and OCA-Colorado breached the terms of the service agreement between OCA-Colorado and Dr. Callender, and that the Company and Dr. Roncone allegedly made certain fraudulent representations to Dr. Callender in connection with his decision to enter into the services agreement and a related asset purchase agreement with OCA-Colorado. The complaint also alleged that the Company and Dr. Roncone tortiously interfered with the proposed sale of a portion of Dr. Callender's interest in his limited liability company to another orthodontist, and that the Company and Dr. Roncone allegedly breached certain fiduciary duties to the plaintiffs in connection with that sale. The complaint sought an unspecified amount of actual and punitive damages, and a declaratory judgment that Dr. Callender's service agreement has been terminated. On January 31, 2000, the Company and OCA-Colorado filed an answer generally denying the plaintiffs' claims, as well as a counterclaim against the plaintiffs, which alleged, among other things, that the plaintiffs breached the terms of the service agreement, and sought compensatory and other damages. On March 14, 2001, the court stayed proceedings in the case due to a potential settlement and dismissal of the action and counterclaim. On September 1, 2001, Dr. Callender and his limited liability company transferred their orthodontic practice to another Affiliated Orthodontist who is continuing the affiliation of the practice with the Company and OCA-Colorado, and the lawsuit and counterclaim were dismissed.

ITEM 5. OTHER INFORMATION

On October 10, 2001, the Company appointed Dr. Dennis J. L. Buchman, Dr. Hector M. Bush and Dr. Jack P. Devereux, Jr. to the Company's Board of Directors. On October 31, 2001 the Company also appointed David W. Vignes to the Company's Board of Directors. The Company's current directors also include Bartholomew F. Palmisano, Sr., Dr. John J. Sheridan, Ashton J. Ryan, Jr. and Edward J. Walters, Jr.

ITEM 6. EXHIBITS AND REPORTS ON FORM 8-K

(a) EXHIBITS

Exhibit number -----	Description -----
3.1	Bylaws of the Registrant (incorporated by reference to exhibit filed with the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-1 Registration Statement No. 33-85326)

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- 3.2 Restated Certificate of Incorporation of the Registrant (incorporated by reference to exhibits filed with the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-1, Registration Statement No. 33-85326)
- 4 Specimen Stock Certificate (incorporated by reference to exhibits filed with the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-1, Registration Statement No. 33-85326)
- 10.1 Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated as of May 16, 2001, among Registrant, OCA Acquisition Corporation and OrthAlliance, Inc. (incorporated by reference to exhibits filed with the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on May 18, 2001)

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(b) REPORTS ON FORM 8-K

During the three months ended September 30, 2001, the Company did not file any current reports on Form 8-K.

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SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this Report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

Orthodontic Centers of America, Inc.  
-----  
(Registrant)

Date: November 2, 2001

/s/ Bartholomew F. Palmisano, Sr.  
-----



Bartholomew F. Palmisano, Sr.  
Chairman of the Board, President  
and Chief Executive Officer

/s/ John C. Glover

-----  
John C. Glover  
Chief Financial Officer

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EXHIBIT INDEX

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