

AMERISTAR CASINOS INC  
 Form 3  
 April 25, 2011

**FORM 3 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
**Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0104  
 Expires: January 31, 2005  
 Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

**INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES**

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934,  
 Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section  
 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*

PAR CAPITAL  
 MANAGEMENT INC

(Last) (First) (Middle)

ONE INTERNATIONAL  
 PLACE SUITE 2401,

(Street)

BOSTON, MA 02110

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Date of Event Requiring Statement

(Month/Day/Year)  
 04/19/2011

3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
 AMERISTAR CASINOS INC [ASCA]

4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_X\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 \_\_\_ Officer \_\_\_ Other  
 (give title below) (specify below)

5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
 \_\_\_ Form filed by One Reporting Person  
 \_\_\_X\_\_\_ Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned**

1. Title of Security (Instr. 4)	2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4)	3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
Common Stock	3,618,810 <sup>(1)</sup>	D	
Common Stock	3,618,810	I	Footnote <sup>(2)</sup>
Common Stock	3,618,810	I	Footnote <sup>(3)</sup>

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

SEC 1473 (7-02)

**Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.**

**Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)**

## Edgar Filing: AMERISTAR CASINOS INC - Form 3

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date <small>(Month/Day/Year)</small>	3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	5. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
PAR CAPITAL MANAGEMENT INC ONE INTERNATIONAL PLACE SUITE 2401 BOSTON, MA 02110	^	^ X	^	^
PAR INVESTMENT PARTNERS LP ONE INTERNATIONAL PLACE, SUITE 2401 BOSTON, MA 02110	^	^ X	^	^
PAR Group, L.P. ONE INTERNATIONAL PLACE SUITE 2401 BOSTON, MA 02110	^	^ X	^	^

## Signatures

Steven M. Smith, Chief Operating Officer and General Counsel

04/25/2011

\_\_Signature of Reporting Person

Date

## Explanation of Responses:

\* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 5(b)(v).

\*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. *See* 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

The reporting person became a 10% owner of the issuer's securities as a result of a share buy-back on April 19, 2011 that substantially reduced the number of issuer's shares of common stock outstanding. The reporting person did not become a 10% owner as a result of an acquisition of the issuer's securities.

(1) These securities are held directly by PAR Investment Partners, L.P. ("PIP"). PAR Group, L.P. ("PAR Group") is the general partner of PIP. PAR Group disclaims beneficial ownership of these securities except to the extent of its pecuniary interest therein, if any, as a result of its ownership in PIP and a contingent right to receive a performance-based incentive allocation from PIP.

(2) These securities are held directly by PIP. PAR Capital Management, Inc. ("PCM") is the general partner of PAR Group, which is the general partner of PIP. PCM disclaims beneficial ownership of these securities except to the extent of its pecuniary interest therein, if any, as a result of its ownership interest in PAR Group.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *See* Instruction 6 for procedure.

Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.