

Edgar Filing: HERSHEY FOODS CORP - Form 8-K

HERSHEY FOODS CORP
Form 8-K
December 12, 2002

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the
Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): December 12, 2002

HERSHEY FOODS CORPORATION

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware	1-183	23-0691590
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)	(Commission File Number)	(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

100 Crystal A Drive, Hershey, Pennsylvania	17033
(Address of principal executive offices)	(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (717) 534-6799

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INFORMATION TO BE INCLUDED IN REPORT

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Item 9. Regulation FD Disclosure

On December 12, 2002, Hershey Foods Corporation (the "Corporation") announced that its Board of Directors has approved an authorization to acquire, from time to time in open market or through privately negotiated transactions, up to \$500 million of its Common Stock; that the authorization is expected to be completed within approximately 12 months, subject to trading liquidity; that the authorization will be funded through free cash flow and commercial paper; and that shares of Common Stock acquired by the Company pursuant to the authorization will be held as Treasury shares.

The Corporation also announced that it has contributed \$150 million from free cash flow to its domestic pension plans in order to improve the funded status of the plans in view of the weak stock market performance this year.

A copy of the Company's press release announcing these actions is furnished herewith as Exhibit 99.

SIGNATURE

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

Date: December 12, 2002

HERSHEY FOODS CORPORATION

By /s/ Frank Cerminara

Frank Cerminara
Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer

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Exhibit No. -----	Description -----
99	Hershey Foods Corporation Press Release dated December 12, 2002

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