

HERSHEY FOODS CORP
Form DEF 14A
March 26, 2003

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of
the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No.)

Filed by the Registrant
Filed by a Party other than the Registrant

Check the appropriate box:

- Preliminary Proxy Statement
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Hershey Foods Corporation

(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if other than the Registrant)

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4. Date Filed:

Letter to
Stockholders

Notice of 2003
Annual Meeting
and Proxy
Statement

2002 Annual
Report to
Stockholders

Management's

Proxy Statement and 2002 Annual Report to Stockholders

March 26, 2003

To Our Fellow Stockholders:

I am pleased to report that Hershey Foods, despite numerous distractions, exited 2002 as a fundamentally better business. We showed solid improvements in all areas: 1) profitability and returns were well above 2001 levels, 2) brand building and supply chain productivity gained momentum, and 3) the organization became and remains energized and unified around delivering superior shareholder value over the long term.

The 2001 assessment of Hershey's strengths and opportunities for improvement led to our new strategic direction. Our commitment to deliver balanced, profitable growth is built on four strategic initiatives:

- Drive profitable, organic sales growth;
- Profitably build rest-of-world scale;
- Create ongoing affordability through a low-cost, value-adding supply chain; and

Discussion and
AnalysisConsolidated
Financial
StatementsOther Stockholder
Information

- Build a streamlined, results-driven organization.

2002 Report Card

Consolidated net sales on a reported basis for 2002 were \$4.12 billion, a decline of 0.4 percent. Net income for the year, including one-time charges, was \$403.6 million or \$2.93 per share-diluted, an increase of 95 percent. On a comparable basis, Hershey achieved strong financial results from ongoing operations in 2002:

- Comparable net sales of \$4.11 billion increased by 0.3 percent;
- Earnings before interest and taxes of \$749.5 million increased by 9.2 percent;
- Net income of \$436.0 million increased by 11.4 percent;
- Earnings per share-diluted of \$3.17 increased by 11.6 percent; and
- Economic return on invested capital increased from 16.3 percent to 16.9 percent.

One-time items in 2002 included cumulative pre-tax realignment charges of \$34.0 million, or \$.16 per share-diluted, and pre-tax expenses of \$17.2 million, or \$.08 per share-diluted, related to the exploration of the sale of the company. One-time items in 2001 included the pre-tax charge of \$278.4 million, or \$1.25 per share-diluted, related to realignment initiatives; the gain on the sale of the *Ludens* business, and the amortization of goodwill.

Profitable, Organic Growth

Hershey's leadership position within the U.S. confectionery market is a clear source of competitive advantage. In 2002, we focused our marketing and selling resources in four areas representing profitable growth opportunities.

First, scale brands continued to offer business upside. Hershey's leading brands, which account for nearly 60 percent of our retail sales, had increased consumer takeaway of better than six percent, gaining market share. This growth was driven by value-added new items (Limited Edition *Hershey's Kisses* chocolates, *Reese's FastBreak* candy bars, *Ice Breakers* mints and gum, and Limited Edition *Kit Kat* wafer bars), powerful advertising and improved retail execution.

Our second area of focus was instant consumables—convenient, on-the-go confectionery loose bars and individual packages of gum and mints. These items match up well against competitive snack products and provide a great source of incremental sales and market share growth across all retail channels. In 2002, instant consumables had a four-percent increase in retail takeaway.

Convenience stores represented the third area of emphasis. Hershey historically has been underrepresented in this important market segment. However, we made significant progress in 2002. Thanks to a combination of new products, better programming and targeted support at store level, Hershey's takeaway in convenience stores increased by nine percent, with a resulting market share gain.

The chocolate business was our fourth key driver during the year. It's the largest, most profitable segment of the U.S. confectionery business and, during 2002, was one of the most competitive as well. Despite this increased activity, Hershey maintained its overall share by increasing consumption three percent. Mints also did well during the year, with Hershey increasing its share of this attractive segment.

Two areas where results must improve are non-chocolate and gum. In non-chocolate, brands such as *Payday* candy bar and *Jolly Rancher* candy did not perform at the required level. In the gum business, the *Ice Breakers* franchise and the total gum business performed well in convenience stores. However, total gum sales suffered across all remaining retail outlets. These areas will receive increased attention during 2003.

The most notable enabler to our business-building efforts was the improved use of information. Integrated Business Intelligence (IBI) is Hershey's platform for assessing marketplace performance, identifying customer and consumer needs, and ensuring a disciplined approach to resource allocation. Good progress is being made as we build these capabilities.

Rest of World

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Results for our non-U.S. business, which accounts for a very small percentage of total sales, fell below expectations in 2002. Net sales were flat for the year and operating margins declined. Operations in Canada and Brazil had a very difficult year. In addition, our export business in South America was soft due to adverse economic conditions. The one bright spot was Hershey Mexico which delivered solid sales and profitability.

Going forward, we believe that Hershey brands can be successful outside the United States. We've experienced good growth on the *Kisses* and *Hershey* franchises in selected international markets. Nonetheless, the competitive marketplace is very challenging, and the lack of an adequate infrastructure in key global markets will restrict this growth in the near term. Several strategic alternatives to address the long-term opportunities currently are under review as we look to invest resources proportionally with the potential growth prospects.

Supply Chain Performance

Hershey Foods has a cost-effective and flexible supply chain. This competitive advantage produced a significant increase in gross margins for 2002, +1.3 percentage points to 38.0 percent. While raw material savings were a positive factor, broad supply chain initiatives contributed to the total productivity gains. Product line rationalization, realignment of our manufacturing and distribution

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facilities, and disciplined general and administrative cost control throughout the company played key roles. Of special note is the strong improvement achieved within our logistics area over the past two years, delivering better customer service at a lower cost.

Organizational Effectiveness

Of equal importance to our brand building and supply chain initiatives was the progress made on organizational development. I continue to be impressed with the commitment, positive attitude and teamwork exhibited by Hershey employees.

The beginning of 2002 saw the majority of those taking the Early Retirement Program (ERP) leave the company. The ERP not only reduced expenses, but also provided significant career opportunities and enhancements for many employees. More than 400 promotions occurred throughout the company, a streamlined management group assumed broader leadership responsibilities, and we began to better address employee communications and performance expectations.

Hershey experienced a six-week work stoppage at the Hershey and West Hershey plants during the second quarter of 2002. While no organization wants to experience such a disruption to its business or its employees' lives, the rest of our company stepped up to help get us through this difficult period. Once the strike was resolved, we quickly returned to the business at hand, producing the best chocolate and confectionery products in the marketplace.

We've retained the Gallup organization over the past two years to conduct a survey of employee engagement across the entire company. Despite all that occurred in 2002, our results improved in comparison to 2001. Employees believe in the future of Hershey Foods and now have a much better understanding of the company's strategy. Importantly, the survey helped us identify key improvement opportunities across nearly 600 distinct work teams, opportunities which were turned into action plans and pursued by these teams throughout the year.

Management and Board Changes

Several key management changes took place during 2002. On November 13, 2002, Milton T. Matthews, Vice President and Chief Customer Officer, announced his intention to retire in mid-2004. Milt is the consummate team player. His devotion to Hershey's brands, customers and people across the organization has been unequalled throughout his 30-year career with the company. Milt has built and nurtured a premiere confectionery selling organization that clearly is respected throughout the food industry.

David J. West, formerly Senior Vice President, Business Planning and Development, was named Senior Vice President, Sales, effective December 1, 2002. Dave brings a combination of superior strategic insight and a "get-it-done" mindset to his new position. His broad experience in snacks, and the integral role he's played in developing Hershey's strategy, will help ensure

delivery of our profitable growth objectives in a challenging marketplace environment.

Dennis N. Eshleman, formerly Vice President, Brand Integration, was promoted to Vice President, Strategy and Innovation, succeeding Dave West, effective December 1, 2002. He joins the Hershey Executive Team in this position. Throughout his 20-year career at Hershey, Dennis has demonstrated sound strategic insight and a commitment to winning. These qualities will serve the company well as he focuses on driving innovation across the entire business system and fostering company-wide strategic growth initiatives.

Jay F. Carr, Vice President, International, retired effective January 1, 2003, after 32 years of outstanding service in many areas of the company. His previous positions include Vice President, Marketing for Hershey Chocolate USA; President, Hershey International; and President, Hershey Pasta and Grocery Group.

Succeeding Jay is Burton H. Snyder, formerly Senior Vice President-Public Affairs, General Counsel and Secretary, who assumed the position of General Counsel, Secretary and Senior Vice President, International, effective December 1, 2002. In taking on the international function, Burt combines broad company experience and a strong understanding of Hershey's international business.

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Marcella K. Arline, formerly Senior Vice President, Human Resources, was named Senior Vice President, Human Resources and Corporate Affairs, effective December 1, 2002. In this expanded position, Marcella assumes additional responsibility for Hershey's public affairs function. Her many years of corporate and operating experience, combined with her overall responsibility for Hershey's organizational effectiveness, will ensure strong support and coordination of the Company's internal and external communications efforts.

John M. Pietruski, a Director since 1987, will retire from the Board in April 2003. He has served as Chairman of the Committee on Directors and Corporate Governance and as a member of the Compensation and Executive Organization Committee and the Executive Committee. Hershey Foods has benefited greatly from Jack's vast experience, discerning questions, and solid advice over the last 16 years. We thank him for his dedicated service to the company.

J. Robert Hillier resigned from the company's Board of Directors effective December 31, 2002. He had served on the Committee on Directors and Corporate Governance and the Compensation and Executive Organization Committee. The company has benefited from Bob's considerable knowledge and he has our sincere appreciation.

Corporate Governance

Corporate governance received a heightened degree of focus from the Board of Directors and management in 2002. The Board has adopted all appropriate actions to ensure full compliance both with the listing standards of the New York Stock Exchange and provisions of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act as regulations are finalized and implemented. We established a Disclosure Committee comprised of senior corporate officers and chaired by the Chief Accounting Officer. This committee is charged with ensuring the appropriate process is in place and followed for all quarterly and annual financial filings. The committee reports directly to me, as Chief Executive Officer, and to our Chief Financial Officer. The committee also reports to the Audit Committee of the Board.

Over the past couple of years, the news accounts of corporate wrongdoing have been pervasive. The issue, more often than not, seems to involve a breakdown in individual accountability and integrity. I'm convinced that corporate ethics cannot be legislated. Integrity and accountability begin and end with the individual. Your Board of Directors and Hershey management understand the role we play in setting the proper tone at the top. Investors, suppliers, customers and consumers must have complete confidence that Hershey always will operate with the highest legal, ethical and moral standards possible - no exceptions, ever.

The Sale Process

The year's review would not be complete without mentioning the sale process. In early 2002, Hershey Trust Company informed the Board of Directors of Hershey Foods that the Trust intended to explore means of diversifying its investments, including a sale of the company. This process ended six months later when the Trust rejected all offers. The demands of the sale process truly showed the strong character and determination of Hershey employees.

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We, at Hershey Foods, have eight core values to which we aspire: Openness and Candor, Teamwork, Integrity, Personal Leadership, Accountability, Passion for Winning, Inclusion, and Learning and Growing. Never were these values more tested or more evident than in 2002. I was so very proud of our company and our employees during this most difficult time. I am convinced that we have emerged a much stronger company and have benefited from this experience.

Looking Ahead

Hershey Foods is a strong company with solid fundamentals. Our market-leading brands are known the world over and enjoy a leadership position in the largest confectionery market. Our strategic agenda is gaining traction, particularly in the key focus areas highlighted above. We've seen a strong response to the marketing and selling efforts of our major brands as well as significant gains in productivity and cost control.

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As we look ahead, accelerating profitable top-line growth is our number-one priority. There are two components to deliver against this priority. First, we must increase Hershey's leadership position in the U.S. confectionery market. To this end, we have programs in place that capitalize on the strength within our brand equities and build upon 2002's success.

Second, we must leverage our core competencies in the broader snack market. Targeted adjacent segments offer incremental growth opportunities as consumers select from a broader array of snacks. We are intent on satisfying these needs. The marketplace is changing rapidly, and we will evolve our portfolio of brands and products to capitalize on these new opportunities.

There are further margin expansion opportunities across the supply chain that will enable sustained investment in our growth initiatives. Whether it's through product line rationalization, increased manufacturing efficiency, further gains in the logistics area, or holding the line on general and administrative expenses, Hershey's cost profile can and will improve.

The company's cocoa costs will increase in 2004 as a result of recent price increases in the world cocoa market. These raw material cost increases will be offset through a combination of price increases and/or product weight changes, improved sales mix and additional efficiencies company-wide. We fully intend to achieve our long-term goals for growth and profitability through these measures.

We'll continue to leverage the considerable financial strengths of Hershey Foods. Our cash flow generation has improved, as has our asset management. In mid-December 2002, the Board of Directors authorized a \$500 million share repurchase program that we intend to complete in 2003 or early 2004. The stock dividend was increased for the 28th consecutive year in August 2002, and we intend to continue to increase dividends as we build our business. Ongoing increases in cash flow provide flexibility for investing in our brands and business capabilities. Acquisitions and additional stock buy-backs are two potential areas that will receive the appropriate consideration.

In summary, 2002 truly was a year of years. Despite numerous challenges, Hershey Foods delivered solid performance across numerous fronts. Our strategic agenda is sound and showing good promise. We understand the barriers to growth and will continue to work hard to unlock the immense potential of our company. Most important, it is a privilege for me to work with so many loyal, dedicated employees who share a common set of values and commitment to building our brands, building our people and rewarding our shareholders.

Richard H. Lenny
Chairman of the Board, President
and Chief Executive Officer

Safe Harbor Statement

Please refer to the Safe Harbor Statement on page A-22 for information about factors which could cause future results to differ materially from forward-looking statements, expectations and assumptions expressed or implied in this letter to stockholders or elsewhere in this publication.

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2003 Annual Meeting of Stockholders

- 2:00 p.m., April 22, 2003 (doors open at 12:30 p.m.)
- The Hershey Lodge & Convention Center, West Chocolate Avenue and University Drive
- Map on back cover
- Registered stockholders should bring Admission Ticket from top half of proxy card for admission to the Annual Meeting
- If voting by Internet, Admission Ticket will be forwarded to you
- If your shares are held by a broker, bank or other nominee, obtain a letter from broker, bank or nominee, or bring your most recent account statement showing ownership of Hershey stock as of February 27, 2003, to gain admission to the Annual Meeting and to receive HERSHEY S CHOCOLATE WORLD discount and product sample
- HERSHEY S CHOCOLATE WORLD visitors center will provide refreshments, a product sample and 25% discount on selected items from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- To receive product sample and 25% discount, present Admission Ticket, letter from broker, bank or nominee, or account statement described above
- Live audio of the Annual Meeting will be webcast and available online in the Investor Relations area of www.hersheys.com

Annual Meeting Security

Security measures will be in place at the Annual Meeting for the safety of attendees. Metal detectors similar to those used in airports will be located at the entrance to the meeting room. Stockholders are strongly encouraged not to carry items such as handbags and packages to the meeting as all such items will be inspected. Photo identification will be required to gain admittance. Sharp objects, such as pocketknives and scissors, cameras and recording devices will not be permitted inside the meeting room.

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Notice of Annual Meeting

and

Proxy Statement

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

on

April 22, 2003

The Annual Meeting of Stockholders of HERSHEY FOODS CORPORATION will be held at 2:00 p.m. on April 22, 2003 at The Hershey Lodge & Convention Center, West Chocolate Avenue and University Drive, Hershey, Pennsylvania 17033 for the following purposes:

- (1) To elect nine directors;
- (2) To approve the appointment of KPMG LLP as the Corporation's independent auditors for 2003;
- (3) To consider and act upon a stockholder proposal to expense stock options, if presented at the meeting; and
- (4) To transact such other business as may be brought properly before the meeting and any and all adjournments thereof.

In accordance with the By-Laws and action of the Board of Directors, stockholders of record at the close of business on February 27, 2003 will be entitled to notice of, and to vote at, the meeting and any and all adjournments thereof.

By order of the Board of Directors,

Burton H. Snyder
General Counsel, Secretary and
Senior Vice President, International

March 26, 2003

Please follow the instructions on the enclosed proxy card for voting by Internet or by telephone whether or not you plan to attend the meeting in person; or if you prefer, kindly mark, sign and date the enclosed proxy card and return it promptly in the enclosed, postage-paid envelope.

PROXY STATEMENT

This Proxy Statement is furnished in connection with the solicitation of proxies by the Board of Directors of HERSHEY FOODS CORPORATION, a Delaware corporation (the Corporation or Hershey Foods), for use at the Annual Meeting of Stockholders (Annual Meeting) which will be held at 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 22, 2003 at The Hershey Lodge & Convention Center, West Chocolate Avenue and University Drive, Hershey, Pennsylvania, and at any and all adjournments of that meeting. This Proxy Statement and the enclosed proxy card are being sent to stockholders on or about March 26, 2003. The Corporation's principal executive offices are located at 100 Crystal A Drive, Hershey, Pennsylvania 17033-0810.

Shares represented by properly voted proxies received by the Corporation at or prior to the Annual Meeting will be voted according to the instructions indicated by such proxies. Unless contrary instructions are given, the persons named on the proxy card intend to vote the shares so represented **FOR** the election of the nominees for director named in this Proxy Statement, **FOR** approval of the appointment of KPMG LLP as the Corporation's independent auditors for 2003 and **AGAINST** the stockholder proposal to expense stock options, if presented at the meeting. As to any other business which may properly come before the Annual Meeting, the persons named on the proxy card will vote according to their best judgment.

Proposal No. 1 ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

Nine directors are to be elected at the Annual Meeting, each to serve until the next Annual Meeting and until his or her successor shall have been elected and qualified. With the exception of Mmes. Harriet Edelman and Marie J. Toulantis, each of the nominees named in the following pages is currently a member of the Board of Directors (the Board). John M. Pietruski, currently a director of the Corporation, will retire from the Board as of the Annual Meeting on April 22, 2003. J. Robert Hillier, formerly a director of the Corporation, resigned from the Board effective December 31, 2002 in anticipation of his resignation from the Board of Directors of Hershey Trust Company and the Board of Managers of Milton Hershey School on January 6, 2003.

Pursuant to the Corporation's Restated Certificate of Incorporation, as amended (Certificate), and By-Laws, one-sixth of the directors, which equates presently to two directors, is to be elected by the holders of the Corporation's Common Stock, one dollar par value (Common Stock), voting separately as a class. The nominees receiving the greatest number of votes of the holders of the Common Stock voting separately as a class will be elected.

Mmes. Harriet Edelman and Marie J. Toulantis have been nominated by the Board for the positions to be elected by the holders of the Common Stock voting separately as a class. The remaining seven individuals listed have been nominated by the Board for the seven positions to be elected by the holders of the Common Stock and the Corporation's Class B Common Stock, one dollar par value (Class B Stock), voting together without regard to class. The seven nominees receiving the greatest number of votes of the holders of the Common Stock and Class B Stock voting together will be elected. In case any of the nominees should become unavailable for election for any reason not presently known or contemplated, the persons named on the proxy card will have discretionary authority to vote pursuant to the proxy for a substitute.

JON A. BOSCIA, age 50, is Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Lincoln National Corporation, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, a leading financial services company. He was elected Chairman of the Board of Lincoln National Corporation in March 2001 and has been Chief Executive Officer since July 1998. From January 1998 to March 2001, Mr. Boscia held the office of President. Prior to 1998, Mr. Boscia held several positions within Lincoln Financial Group, the marketing name for Lincoln National Corporation and its affiliates. A Hershey Foods director since 2001, he is a member of the Audit Committee and the Committee on Directors and Corporate Governance.

ROBERT H. CAMPBELL, age 65, retired in 2000 as Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer, Sunoco, Inc., Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, a petroleum refiner and marketer. He had been Chief Executive Officer since 1991, Chairman of the Board since 1992 and a director of Sunoco, Inc. since 1988. He is a director of CIGNA Corporation. A Hershey Foods director since 1995, he is a member of the Audit Committee and the Compensation and Executive Organization Committee.

GARY P. COUGHLAN, age 59, retired in 2001 as Senior Vice President, Finance and Chief Financial Officer of Abbott Laboratories, Inc., Abbott Park, Illinois, a diversified international healthcare company. He had held that position since May 1990. He is a director of Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. and General Binding Corporation. A Hershey Foods director since 2001, he is a member of the Audit Committee and the Compensation and Executive Organization Committee.

HARRIET EDELMAN, age 47, is Senior Vice President and Chief Information Officer of Avon Products, Inc., New York, New York, the world's leading seller of beauty and related products. She was elected to that position in January 2000. She was formerly Senior Vice President, Global Operations from June 1998 to January 2000 and Group Vice President, North American Supply Chain from January 1996 to June 1998. She is a director of Blair Corporation. She has been nominated as a new director for election by the holders of the Common Stock voting separately as a class.

BONNIE G. HILL, age 61, is President of B. Hill Enterprises, LLC, Los Angeles, California, a consulting company, and Chief Operating Officer of Icon Blue, Inc., Los Angeles, California, a brand marketing company. Previously she was President and Chief Executive Officer of The Times Mirror Foundation; and Senior Vice President, Communications and Public Affairs, *The Los Angeles Times*, a subsidiary of Tribune Company. She is a director of AK Steel Holding Corporation, Albertsons, Inc., ChoicePoint, Inc., The Home Depot, Inc., and National Grid Transco plc. A Hershey Foods director since 1993, she is a member of the Audit Committee and the Compensation and Executive Organization Committee.

JOHN C. JAMISON, age 68, is President, Williamsburg Community Trust, a community foundation, Williamsburg, Virginia. Prior to 2003, he was Chairman of Mallardee Associates, a privately-held corporate financial services firm, Williamsburg, Virginia. A Hershey Foods director since 1974, he chairs the Audit Committee and is a member of the Executive Committee.

RICHARD H. LENNY, age 51, was elected Chairman of the Board, President and Chief Executive Officer of Hershey Foods Corporation effective January 1, 2002. From March 2001 to December 2001, he was President and Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation. From January 2001 until March 2001, he was Group Vice President of Kraft Foods, Inc. and President of its Nabisco Biscuit and Snack business. From February 1998 to December 2000, he was President, Nabisco Biscuit Company; and from January 1997 to February 1998, he was President, Pillsbury North America. He is a director of Sunoco, Inc. A Hershey Foods director since 2001, he chairs the Executive Committee and is a member of the Committee on Directors and Corporate Governance until his term expires on April 22, 2003.

MACKEY J. McDONALD, age 56, is Chairman of the Board, Chief Executive Officer and President of VF Corporation, Greensboro, North Carolina, an international apparel company. He was elected Chairman of the Board of VF Corporation in 1998. He has been Chief Executive Officer since 1996 and President since 1993. He is a director of Wachovia Corporation and Tyco International Ltd. A Hershey Foods director since 1996, he chairs the Compensation and Executive Organization Committee and is a member of the Executive Committee.

MARIE J. TOULANTIS, age 48, is Chief Executive Officer of Barnes & Noble.com, New York, New York, an online retailer of books, music and DVDs. She was elected to that position in February 2002. From May 2001 to February 2002, Ms. Toulantis held the office of President and Chief Operating Officer; and from May 1999 to May 2001 held the office of Chief Financial Officer. From March 1999 to May 1999, Ms. Toulantis was Chief Financial Officer of Barnes & Noble, Inc., the world's largest bookseller, operating over 900 Barnes & Noble and B. Dalton stores nationwide, and from July 1997 until March 1999, was that company's Executive Vice President, Finance. She has been nominated as a new director for election by the holders of the Common Stock voting separately as a class.

The Board of Directors recommends a vote FOR the director nominees listed above, and proxies that are returned will be so voted unless otherwise instructed.

BOARD COMMITTEES

The Board has four standing committees: the Audit Committee, the Committee on Directors and Corporate Governance, the Compensation and Executive Organization Committee, and the Executive Committee. In addition to the four standing committees, the Board from time to time establishes committees of limited duration for special purposes.

Audit Committee

8 meetings in 2002

Members:

John C. Jamison (Chair)
Jon A. Boscia
Robert H. Campbell
Gary P. Coughlan
Bonnie G. Hill

Responsibilities:

Assists the full Board:

In its oversight of the Corporation's accounting and financial reporting principles and policies and internal controls and procedures;

In its oversight of the Corporation's financial statements and the independent audit thereof;

In selecting (or nominating the independent auditors to be proposed for stockholder approval), evaluating and, where deemed appropriate, replacing the independent auditors; and

In evaluating the independence of the independent auditors.

Committee on Directors and Corporate Governance

3 meetings in 2002

Members:

John M. Pietruski (Chair)
Jon A. Boscia
J. Robert Hillier (until his resignation on December 31, 2002)
Richard H. Lenny*

Responsibilities:

Reviews and makes recommendations on the composition of the Board and its committees;

Evaluates and recommends candidates for election to the Board;

Administers the Directors' Compensation Plan; and

Reviews and makes recommendations to the full Board on corporate governance matters and the Board's corporate governance policies.

* Effective April 22, 2003, Mr. Lenny's term on the Committee on Directors and Corporate Governance will expire and the Committee will thereafter be composed solely of non-employee directors.

The Committee on Directors and Corporate Governance will consider nominees recommended by stockholders. Such recommendations must comply with the procedures for nomination set forth in the section entitled "Stockholder Proposals and Nominations," beginning on page 28.

Compensation and Executive Organization Committee

10 meetings in 2002

Members:

Mackey J. McDonald (Chair)
Robert H. Campbell
Gary P. Coughlan
Bonnie G. Hill
J. Robert Hillier (until his resignation on December 31, 2002)

Responsibilities:

Establishes the salaries of the Corporation's elected officers;

Grants performance stock units, stock options and other rights under the Corporation's Key Employee Incentive Plan, as amended ("Incentive Plan");

Establishes target-award levels and makes awards under the Annual Incentive Program and the Long-Term Incentive Program of the Incentive Plan;

Administers the Incentive Plan, the Employee Benefits Protection Plans and the Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan;

Monitors compensation arrangements for management employees for consistency with corporate objectives and stockholders' interests;

Reviews the executive organization of the Corporation; and

Monitors the development of personnel available to fill key management positions as part of the succession planning process.

Executive Committee

2 meetings in 2002

Members:

Richard H. Lenny (Chair)
 John C. Jamison
 Mackey J. McDonald
 John M. Pietruski

Responsibilities:

Manages the business and affairs of the Corporation, to the extent permitted by the Delaware General Corporation Law, when the Board is not in session.

DIRECTORS ATTENDANCE

There were six regular meetings and seven special meetings of the Board of Directors during 2002. No director attended less than 83% of the sum of the total number of meetings of the Board and the total number of meetings held by all committees of the Board on which he or she served during 2002. Average attendance for all of these meetings equaled 95%.

DIRECTORS COMPENSATION

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| Annual Retainer | \$ 55,000 |
| Annual Restricted Stock Unit Grant | \$ 40,000 |
| Annual Retainer for Committee Chairs | \$ 5,000 |

The Directors Compensation Plan is designed to attract and retain qualified non-employee directors and to align the interests of non-employee directors with those of the stockholders by paying a portion of their compensation in units representing shares of Common Stock. Directors who are employees of the Corporation receive no remuneration for their services as directors.

Restricted stock units (RSUs) are granted quarterly on the first day of January, April, July and October on the basis of the number of shares of Common Stock, valued at the average closing price on the New York Stock Exchange of the Common Stock on the last three trading days preceding the grant, equal to \$10,000. While the value of the annual RSU grant is targeted at \$40,000, the actual value of the grant may be higher or lower depending upon the performance of the Common Stock following the grant dates. A director s RSUs will vest and be distributed upon his or her retirement from the Board.

Directors may elect to receive all or a portion of their retainer in cash or Common Stock, although committee chair fees are paid only in cash. A director may defer receipt of the retainer and committee chair fees until his or her retirement from the Board.

All directors are reimbursed for reasonable travel and other out-of-pocket expenses incurred in connection with attendance at Board and committee meetings and for minor incidental expenses incurred in connection with performance of directors services. In addition, directors are provided with travel accident insurance while traveling on the Corporation s business, receive the same discounts as employees on the purchase of the Corporation s products and are eligible to participate in the Corporation s Higher Education Gift Matching Program.

The Corporation maintains a Directors Charitable Award Program for individuals who became directors prior to December 31, 1996. This program is a self-funded life insurance program on eligible directors and funds charitable donations by the Corporation to educational institutions designated by those directors. The amount of the donation varies according to the director s length of service as a director, up to a maximum donation of \$1 million after five years of service. With the exception of Jon A. Boscia, Gary P. Coughlan, and Richard H. Lenny, who became directors after December 31, 1996, all current directors and fourteen retired directors participate in the program. The amount of the charitable donation per current participating director is \$1 million.

AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT

The role of the Audit Committee of the Board of Directors is to assist the Board in its oversight of the Corporation's financial reporting process. The Board has determined that all members of the Audit Committee are independent, as required by applicable listing standards of the New York Stock Exchange. The Audit Committee operates pursuant to a Charter that was last amended and restated by the Board on February 7, 2001. As set forth in the Charter, management of the Corporation is responsible for the preparation, presentation and integrity of the Corporation's financial statements, the Corporation's accounting and financial reporting principles, and internal controls designed to assure compliance with accounting standards and applicable laws and regulations. The independent auditors are responsible for auditing the Corporation's financial statements and expressing an opinion as to their conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States.

In the performance of its oversight function, the Audit Committee has considered and discussed the audited financial statements with management and the independent auditors. The Audit Committee has also discussed with the independent auditors the matters required to be discussed by Statement on Auditing Standards No. 61, *Communication with Audit Committees*, as currently in effect. Finally, the Audit Committee has received the written disclosures and the letter from the independent auditors required by Independence Standards Board Standard No. 1, *Independence Discussions with Audit Committees*, as currently in effect, has discussed with the independent auditors the auditors' independence from the Corporation and its management, and has considered whether the provision of non-audit services to the Corporation by the independent auditors is compatible with maintaining the auditors' independence.

The members of the Audit Committee are not professionally engaged in the practice of auditing or accounting, are not employed by the Corporation for accounting, financial management or internal control purposes, and are not experts in the fields of accounting or auditing, including with respect to auditor independence. Members of the Audit Committee rely, without independent verification, on the information provided to them and on the representations made by management and the independent auditors. Accordingly, the Audit Committee's oversight does not provide an independent basis to determine that management has maintained appropriate accounting and financial reporting principles and policies or internal controls and procedures designed to assure compliance with accounting standards and applicable laws and regulations. Furthermore, the Audit Committee's considerations and discussions referred to above do not assure that the audit of the Corporation's financial statements has been carried out in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States, that the financial statements are presented in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States or that the Corporation's auditors are in fact independent.

Based upon the reports and discussions described in this report, and subject to the limitations on the role and responsibilities of the Audit Committee referred to above and in the Charter, the Audit Committee recommended to the Board that the audited financial statements be included in the Corporation's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2002 to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

SUBMITTED BY THE AUDIT COMMITTEE OF THE CORPORATION'S
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

John C. Jamison, Chair

Jon A. Boscia

Robert H. Campbell

Gary P. Coughlan

Bonnie G. Hill

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VOTING SECURITIES

The Corporation has shares of two classes of stock outstanding, Common Stock and Class B Stock. At the close of business on February 27, 2003, the record date for the Annual Meeting, there were outstanding 102,132,277 shares of Common Stock and 30,422,308 shares of Class B Stock, all of which are entitled to be voted. Holders of record of the Corporation's Common Stock on February 27, 2003 will be entitled to cast one vote for each share held, and holders of record of the Class B Stock on February 27, 2003 will be entitled to cast ten votes for each share held. The Common Stock is entitled to cash dividends 10% higher than those declared on the Class B Stock.

According to the Corporation's By-Laws, the presence in person or by proxy of the holders of a majority of the votes entitled to be cast of the outstanding Common Stock and Class B Stock, respectively, shall constitute quorums for matters to be voted on

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separately by the holders of the Common Stock voting separately as a class and the holders of the Class B Stock voting separately as a class. The presence in person or by proxy of the holders of a majority of the votes entitled to be cast by the combined outstanding shares of the Common Stock and the Class B Stock shall constitute a quorum for matters to be voted on without regard to class.

The vote required for approval of any matter which may be the subject of a vote of the stockholders is provided for in the Corporation's Certificate and By-Laws. The specific vote requirements for the proposals being submitted to a stockholder vote at this year's Annual Meeting are set forth under the description of each proposal in this Proxy Statement.

Abstentions and broker non-votes (defined below) are counted for the purpose of determining whether a quorum is present at the Annual Meeting. For the purpose of determining whether a proposal (except for the election of directors) has received a majority vote, abstentions will be included in the vote totals with the result that an abstention will have the same effect as a negative vote. In instances where brokers are prohibited from exercising discretionary authority for beneficial owners who have not returned a proxy (broker non-votes), those shares will not be included in the vote totals and, therefore, will have no effect on the vote.

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As of February 27, 2003, stockholders noted in the following table owned the indicated number of shares of the Corporation's Common Stock (including Common Stock equivalent shares) and Class B Stock. Unless otherwise indicated in a footnote, the individuals listed below have voting and investment power over the shares indicated. The voting and investment power over the shares held by the Milton Hershey School Trust and Hershey Trust Company are as indicated in the section entitled "Description of the Milton Hershey School Trust and Hershey Trust Company."

| Holder | Common Stock ⁽¹⁾ | Deferred Stock Units ⁽²⁾ | Exercisable Stock Options ⁽³⁾ | Percent of Common Stock | Class B Common Stock | Percent of Class B Stock |
|--|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|-------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| Milton Hershey School Trust Founders Hall Hershey, PA 17033 ⁽⁴⁾ | 12,276,671 | | | 12.0% | 30,306,006 | 99.6% |
| Hershey Trust Company 100 Mansion Road Hershey, PA 17033 ⁽⁴⁾ | | | | | | |
| Hershey Trust Company ⁽⁴⁾ | 423,610 | | | ** | | |
| J. A. Boscia* | 1,000 | 50 | | ** | | |
| R. Brace | 11,615 | 10,589 | 42,514 | ** | | |
| R. H. Campbell* | 1,140 | 7,149 | | ** | | |
| F. Cerminara | 6,790 | 28,463 | 52,088 | ** | | |
| G. P. Coughlan* | 1,539 | | | ** | | |
| H. Edelman* | 200 | | | ** | | |
| B. G. Hill* | 1,261 ⁽⁵⁾ | 2,781 | | ** | | |

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| | | | | |
|--|-----------------------|---------|---------|----|
| J. C. Jamison* | 10,000 | 5,672 | | ** |
| R. H. Lenny* | 36,070 ⁽⁶⁾ | 32,771 | 268,200 | ** |
| M. J. McDonald* | 400 | 4,455 | | ** |
| J. M. Pietruski* | 5,724 ⁽⁷⁾ | 5,638 | | ** |
| M. J. Toulantis* | 1,000 | | | ** |
| D. J. West | 140 | 9,393 | 5,625 | ** |
| W. A. Willard ⁽⁸⁾ | 114 | 3,125 | 8,000 | ** |
| All directors and executive officers as a group (19 persons) | 87,937 | 121,546 | 508,632 | ** |

* Director
** Less than 1%

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- (1) Amounts listed include shares of Common Stock allocated by the Corporation to the employee's account in the Corporation's Employee Savings Stock Investment and Ownership Plan (ESSIOP) pursuant to Section 401(k) of the Internal Revenue Code.
- (2) These are common stock units deferred under the Corporation's Deferred Compensation Plan or, in the case of directors, the Directors' Compensation Plan. These units are fully vested and are payable in Common Stock shares upon the expiration of the deferral period. For directors, the deferral period ends upon each director's retirement from the Board. Upon payment, the holder obtains voting and investment power over the shares.
- (3) This column reflects stock options that are currently exercisable or capable of being exercised within 60 days of February 27, 2003.
- (4) See Description of the Milton Hershey School Trust and Hershey Trust Company for further information on the voting of these securities.
- (5) Includes 150 shares held in trust by Ms. Hill's husband.
- (6) Includes 32,771 RSUs that vested on March 12, 2003.
- (7) Includes 924 RSUs under the Directors' Compensation Plan which will vest upon Mr. Pietruski's retirement from the Board on April 22, 2003.
- (8) Mr. Willard resigned his position as an executive officer of the Corporation on December 31, 2002.

Description of the Milton Hershey School Trust and Hershey Trust Company

Milton Hershey School, a non-profit school for the full-time care and education of disadvantaged children located in Hershey, Pennsylvania, is the sole beneficiary of the trust established by Milton S. and Catherine S. Hershey in 1909. Investment decisions with respect to securities held by Hershey Trust Company, as Trustee for the benefit of Milton Hershey School (the Milton Hershey School Trust), are made by the Board of Directors of Hershey Trust Company, as Trustee, with the approval of the Board of Managers (governing body) of Milton Hershey School. Decisions regarding the voting of such securities are made by the Board of Directors of Hershey Trust Company, as Trustee for the benefit of Milton Hershey School. The Milton Hershey School Trust will be entitled to cast 12,276,671 of the total 102,132,277 votes, or 12%, entitled to be cast on matters required to be voted on separately by the holders of the Common Stock, and 315,336,731 of the total 406,355,357 votes, or 77.6%, entitled

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to be cast by the holders of the Common Stock and the Class B Stock voting together on matters to be voted on without regard to class.

Hershey Trust Company is a state-chartered trust company and holds 191,610 shares of the Corporation's Common Stock in its capacity as institutional fiduciary for 69 estates and trusts unrelated to the Milton Hershey School Trust. Hershey Trust Company also holds 232,000 shares of Common Stock as investments. Investment decisions and decisions with respect to voting of securities held by Hershey Trust Company as institutional fiduciary and as investments are made by the Board of Directors or management of Hershey Trust Company.

Hershey Trust Company, as Trustee for the benefit of Milton Hershey School, as fiduciary for the above-noted individual trusts and estates, and as direct owner of investment shares, will be entitled to vote 12,700,281 shares of Common Stock and 30,306,006 shares of Class B Stock at the meeting.

Pursuant to the Corporation's Certificate, all holders of Class B Stock, including the Milton Hershey School Trust, are entitled to convert any or all of their Class B Stock shares into shares of Common Stock at any time on a share-for-share basis. In the event the Milton Hershey School Trust ceases to hold more than 50% of the outstanding shares of the Class B Stock and at least 15% of the total outstanding shares of both the Common Stock and Class B Stock, all shares of the Class B Stock will automatically be converted into shares of Common Stock on a share-for-share basis. The Corporation's Certificate requires the approval of the Milton Hershey School Trust prior to the Corporation issuing shares of Common Stock or undertaking any other action which would cause the

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Milton Hershey School Trust to cease to be able to cast a majority of the votes entitled to be cast with regard to any matter upon which the Class B Stock is entitled to vote either separately as a class or together with any other class.

All of the outstanding shares of Hershey Trust Company are owned by the Milton Hershey School Trust. The members of the Board of Managers of Milton Hershey School are appointed by and from the Board of Directors of Hershey Trust Company. There are 11 members of the Board of Directors of Hershey Trust Company and 10 members of the Board of Managers of Milton Hershey School. R. H. Lenny, who is a director and the Chairman of the Board, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation, is also a director of Hershey Trust Company and a member of the Board of Managers of Milton Hershey School. Directors of Hershey Trust Company and members of the Milton Hershey School Board of Managers individually are not considered to be beneficial owners of the Corporation's shares of Common Stock or Class B Stock held by the Milton Hershey School Trust.

On July 25, 2002, the Corporation confirmed that the Milton Hershey School Trust had informed the Corporation that it had decided to diversify its holdings and in this regard wanted the Corporation to explore a sale of the entire Corporation. On September 17, 2002, the Milton Hershey School Trust informed the Corporation that it had elected not to sell its controlling interest and requested that the process to explore a sale be terminated.

Proposal No. 2 APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS

The Board of Directors, on the recommendation of the Audit Committee, has appointed KPMG LLP as independent auditors for the Corporation for the year ending December 31, 2003. Although not required to do so, the Board is submitting the appointment of that firm for approval at the Annual Meeting. KPMG LLP has audited the Corporation's financial statements since May 10, 2002 and is considered to be well-qualified. If the appointment is not approved, the Board will reconsider its appointment. Representatives of KPMG LLP will be present at the Annual Meeting with the opportunity to make a statement if they so desire and will be available to respond to questions.

On April 30, 2002, the Board of Directors, upon the recommendation of the Audit Committee, approved the dismissal of Arthur Andersen LLP (Andersen) as the Corporation's independent auditors. The stockholders approved the dismissal of Andersen that same day at the 2002 Annual Meeting. Andersen had served as the Corporation's independent auditors since 1927.

Andersen's reports on the Corporation's Consolidated Financial Statements for the years ended December 31, 2001 and 2000 did not contain an adverse opinion or disclaimer of opinion, nor were they qualified or modified as to uncertainty, audit scope or accounting principles.

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During the years ended December 31, 2001 and 2000, and the subsequent interim period through the date of Andersen's dismissal, there were no disagreements with Andersen on any matter of accounting principles or practices, financial statement disclosure, or auditing scope or procedure which, if not resolved to Andersen's satisfaction, would have caused Andersen to make reference to the subject matter of such disagreement in connection with its report on the Corporation's Consolidated Financial Statements for such years; and there were no reportable events, as listed in Item 304(a)(1)(v) of Regulation S-K.

The Corporation provided Andersen with a copy of the foregoing disclosures. A copy of Andersen's letter stating its agreement with the foregoing disclosures was filed as Exhibit 16 to the Corporation's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed on April 30, 2002.

During the years ended December 31, 2001 and 2000 and the subsequent interim period through the date of KPMG LLP's appointment on May 10, 2002, neither the Corporation nor anyone on its behalf consulted KPMG LLP regarding any of the matters or reportable events listed in Items 304(a)(2)(i) and (ii) of Regulation S-K.

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Set forth below are the aggregate fees billed by KPMG LLP for professional or other services rendered to the Corporation during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2002:

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Audit Fees | \$ 1,171,125 |
| Financial Information Systems Design and Implementation Fees | \$ |
| All Other Fees | \$ 982,995* |

* Of this total, \$723,419 related to services performed in connection with the possible sale of the Corporation in the second and third quarters of 2002.

The affirmative vote of a majority of the votes represented at the Annual Meeting in person or by proxy of the Common Stock and Class B Stock voting together without regard to class is required for approval of the appointment of auditors.

The Board of Directors recommends a vote FOR Proposal No. 2, and proxies that are returned will be so voted unless a contrary vote is designated.

Proposal No. 3 STOCKHOLDER PROPOSAL

Thomas J. Harrington, on behalf of the Massachusetts Carpenters Pension & Annuity Funds, advised the Corporation that he or his representative intend to present the following stockholder proposal at the Annual Meeting. The address and the share ownership of the proponent will be furnished to any stockholder upon request.

Option Expensing Proposal

Resolved, that the shareholders of Hershey Foods Corporation (Company) hereby request that the Company's Board of Directors establish a policy of expensing in the Company's annual income statement the costs of all future stock options issued by the Company.

Statement of Support: Current accounting rules give companies the choice of reporting stock option expenses annually in the company income statement or as a footnote in the annual report (See: Financial Accounting Standards Board Statement 123). Most companies, including ours, report the cost of stock options as a footnote in the annual report, rather than include the option costs in determining operating income. We believe that expensing stock options would more accurately reflect a company's operational earnings.

Stock options are an important component of our Company's executive compensation program. Options have replaced salary and bonuses as the most significant element of executive pay packages at numerous companies. The lack of option expensing can promote excessive use of options in a company's compensation plans, obscure and understate the cost of executive compensation and promote the pursuit of corporate strategies designed to promote short-term stock price rather than long-term corporate value.

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A recent report issued by Standard & Poor's indicated that the expensing of stock option grant costs would have lowered operational earnings at companies by as much as 10%. The failure to expense stock option grants has introduced a significant distortion in reported earnings, stated Federal Reserve Board Chairman Alan Greenspan. Reporting stock options as expenses is a sensible and positive step toward a clearer and more precise accounting of a company's worth. *Globe and Mail*, Expensing Options Is a Bandwagon Worth Joining, Aug. 16, 2002.

Warren Buffett wrote in a *New York Times* Op-Ed piece on July 24, 2002:

There is a crisis of confidence today about corporate earnings reports and the credibility of chief executives. And it's justified.

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For many years, I've had little confidence in the earnings numbers reported by most corporations. I'm not talking about Enron and WorldCom—examples of outright crookedness. Rather, I am referring to the legal, but improper, accounting methods used by chief executives to inflate reported earnings . . .

Options are a huge cost for many corporations and a huge benefit to executives. No wonder, then, that they have fought ferociously to avoid making a charge against their earnings. Without blushing, almost all C.E.O.'s have told their shareholders that options are cost-free . . .

When a company gives something of value to its employees in return for their services, it is clearly a compensation expense. And if expenses don't belong in the earnings statement, where in the world do they belong?

Many companies have responded to investors' concerns about their failure to expense stock options. In recent months, more than 100 companies, including such prominent ones as Coca Cola, Washington Post, and General Electric, have decided to expense stock options in order to provide their shareholders more accurate financial statements. Our Company has yet to act. We urge your support.

Board of Directors Statement in Opposition to the Proposal

The Corporation applies Accounting Principles Board Opinion No. 25, *Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees*, and related Interpretations, in accounting for all fixed stock option grants and accordingly, the Corporation recognizes no compensation cost for these grants. However, the Corporation does disclose in the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements the Net Income, Net income per share—Basic and Net income per share—Diluted which would have been reported had compensation cost for the Corporation's stock-based compensation plans been determined based on the fair value at the grant dates for its fixed stock option grants consistent with the method of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123, *Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation* (SFAS No. 123). This disclosure provides stockholders with an estimate of the annual impact on earnings of fixed stock option grants.

In December 2002, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 148, *Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation—Transition and Disclosure, an amendment to FASB Statement No. 123* (SFAS No. 148). SFAS No. 148 specifies transition alternatives, requires additional disclosures and is effective for fiscal years ending after December 15, 2002 and interim periods beginning after December 15, 2002. The Corporation will provide quarterly disclosures of the impact on earnings of stock option grants beginning in the first quarter of 2003.

The FASB indicated in SFAS No. 148 that it did not reconsider the recognition and measurement provisions of SFAS No. 123 in the context of this project because of the ongoing International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) project on share-based payment. The FASB has been actively working with the IASB and other major national standard setters to bring about convergence of the accounting standards across the major world capital markets. In that context, the FASB has been monitoring the IASB's deliberations on share-based payment and, in November 2002, issued an Invitation to Comment summarizing the IASB's proposal and explaining the key differences between its provisions and current U.S. accounting standards. The comment period ended on February 1, 2003. The FASB will consider the comments received in determining whether it should propose any changes to the U.S. standards on accounting for stock-based compensation.

The IASB exposure draft entitled *ED2 Share-Based Payment* was issued in November 2002 and would require companies using IASB standards to recognize, as an expense, the fair value of employee stock options granted. While there are some important differences between the recognition and measurement provisions in the IASB exposure draft and those contained in SFAS No. 123, the basic approach is the same - fair value measurement of stock-based employee compensation at the date of grant with expense recognition over the vesting period. The IASB exposure draft comment period

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ended March 7, 2003. If a final statement is issued before the end of 2003, the provisions would be effective for 2004.

The accounting standards relating to stock options are currently undergoing a significant amount of review and it is likely that revisions to the current standards will be forthcoming. As a result, the Board believes that the most appropriate course of action is to continue to monitor the deliberations of both the FASB and IASB and then to evaluate and apply any new accounting standards after they are issued in final form.

The affirmative vote of a majority of the votes represented at the Annual Meeting in person or by proxy of the Common Stock and Class B Stock voting together without regard to class is required for approval of this proposal.

The Board of Directors recommends a vote AGAINST Proposal No. 3, and proxies that are returned will be so voted unless a contrary vote is designated.

2002 EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

Compensation and Executive Organization Committee Report on Executive Compensation

The Compensation and Executive Organization Committee of the Board of Directors (Committee) is composed entirely of non-employee directors and is responsible for the establishment and oversight of the Corporation's executive compensation program.

Executive Compensation Philosophy

The Corporation's executive compensation program is designed to meet the following objectives:

To align the interests and performance of the executive officers with corporate performance and the interests of stockholders;

To attract, retain and motivate executive talent;

To ensure that a significant portion of executive officers' total compensation is dependent upon the appreciation of the Corporation's Common Stock; and

To provide a balanced total compensation package that recognizes the individual contributions of executive officers and the overall business results of the Corporation.

Each year the Committee conducts a full review of the Corporation's executive compensation program. The annual compensation review permits an ongoing evaluation of the link between the Corporation's performance and its executive compensation in the context of the compensation programs of other companies. This review is performed periodically with the assistance of an independent outside consultant whose services are retained by the Corporation. The Committee reserves the right to select and/or meet independently with any consultant at its discretion. This annual review includes analyzing survey data comparing the competitiveness of the Corporation's executive compensation, corporate performance, stock price appreciation and total return to stockholders with a peer group of food, beverage and consumer packaged goods companies representing the Corporation's most direct competitors for executive talent. The Committee also considers compensation data compiled from surveys of a broader group of industrial companies, some of which are from the food industry. In the Performance Graph on page 25, the Corporation's performance is compared, in part, to the Standard and Poor's Packaged Foods Index. The peer group considered relevant for the Corporation's compensation comparison purposes does not include all of the

companies in the Packaged Foods Index as compensation data on all such companies are not readily available. Also, the peer group includes some companies that are not in the Packaged Foods Index because the Corporation selects those companies it believes to be direct competitors for executive talent. The Committee reviews which peer companies are selected for compensation analysis.

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In the review of survey data, a statistical process involving regression analysis is used to determine competitive compensation levels. This approach adjusts compensation levels for factors such as net sales, return on equity and time in position within the organization to determine predicted values or going rates within the marketplace for each element of compensation. The Corporation targets total compensation at or above such going rates.

The Committee believes the holding of significant equity interests in the Corporation by management aligns the interests of stockholders and management. Through the programs described in this report, a very significant portion of each executive officer's total compensation is linked directly to individual and corporate performance and to Common Stock price appreciation.

The key elements of the Corporation's executive compensation program consist of base salary, an annual cash incentive program, and a long-term incentive program consisting of performance stock units and stock options. Additionally, restricted stock units (RSUs) were awarded in 2002 to R. H. Lenny, Chairman of the Board, President and Chief Executive Officer, who was hired by the Corporation in 2001, to replace compensation forfeited by him as a result of his resignation from a prior employer.

Incentives play an important role in motivating executive performance and in aligning executive pay practices with the interests of the stockholders. The Corporation's executive compensation program is intended to reward achievement of both short- and long-term business goals. To ensure proper balance in the achievement of these business goals, the incentive program places greater dollars at risk in long-term incentives compared to short-term incentives. The long-term incentive program is designed especially to ensure that the Corporation's executive officers have a significant portion of their total compensation tied to factors which affect the performance of the Corporation's Common Stock.

The Committee determined the total compensation of R. H. Lenny for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2002. The Committee also reviewed and approved the total compensation of the most highly-compensated executive officers, including those individuals whose compensation is detailed in this Proxy Statement. This is designed to ensure consistency throughout the executive compensation program.

The Committee's policies with respect to each of the elements of the executive compensation program, including the basis for the compensation awarded to Mr. Lenny, are discussed below. While the elements of compensation are described separately below, the Committee considers the total compensation package afforded by the Corporation when determining each component of the executive officer's compensation, including pension benefits, supplemental retirement benefits, insurance and other benefits.

Base Salaries

Base salaries for new executive officers are determined initially by evaluating the responsibilities of the position held, the experience of the individual and salaries paid in the competitive marketplace for executive talent, including a comparison of base salaries for comparable positions at other companies.

Salary reviews are conducted annually and salary adjustments are made based upon the performance of the Corporation and of each executive officer. The Committee considers both financial and, where appropriate, non-financial performance measures in making salary adjustments. In the case of executive officers with responsibility for a particular business unit, such unit's financial results are also considered. Base salaries for executive officers and all other salaried employees are set within salary ranges established for their positions as determined through the annual competitive salary surveys described above.

With respect to the base salary granted to R. H. Lenny in 2002, the Committee reviewed the Corporation's actual business results versus plan goals and the results achieved by him on various objectives the Committee established in 2001. The Committee also considered his relative position in his salary grade. Based on these factors, the Committee increased Mr. Lenny's salary by \$100,000, a 13.3% increase on an annualized basis over his annual salary in 2001.

Annual Incentive Program

The Corporation's executive officers, as well as other key managerial and professional employees, are eligible for an annual cash incentive award under the Annual Incentive Program (AIP) of the Incentive Plan. Participating executive officers are eligible to earn individual awards expressed as a percentage of base salary.

The final award is the product of the executive officer's base salary, the applicable target percentage, and a performance score calculated as the sum of a corporate or business unit performance score and an individual performance score.

Individual and short-term (annual) corporate and business unit performance objectives are established at the beginning of each year by the Committee. For 2002, the corporate or business unit objectives were weighted at 75% and the individual performance objectives were weighted at 25% of the total performance score. For executive officers at the corporate level, the performance objectives for AIP award payments for 2002 were based on financial measures including earnings per share-diluted, consolidated net sales and consolidated economic return on invested capital. For executive officers at the business unit level, the performance objectives for 2002 included unit operating income, unit net sales and consolidated economic return on invested capital. Adjustments are made to the performance results, if necessary, to take into account extraordinary or unusual items occurring during the performance year. Payment of annual cash incentive awards may be deferred to a later date at the election of the executive officer.

Performance scores in excess of the objectives for financial measures and/or individual performance expectations may result in the individual executive officer receiving more than his or her target percentage. The maximum corporate or business unit performance score for an executive officer in 2002 was 200%. The maximum score on the individual performance score was 200%, with the Committee having discretion to adjust this percentage downward. The range of the target percentages of base salary used in 2002 for annual cash incentive awards for executive officers was 40% to 90%, with the highest rate of 90% applicable only to Mr. Lenny.

In 2002, corporate-level participants in the AIP (which included R. H. Lenny) exceeded the corporate performance objectives set for earnings per share-diluted and consolidated economic return on invested capital, and did not achieve the performance objective for consolidated net sales. Based on these results and the Committee's evaluation of Mr. Lenny's individual performance objectives, Mr. Lenny was awarded a 2002 annual cash incentive award of \$1,377,000.

Long-Term Incentive Program Performance Stock Units

Performance stock units (PSUs) were granted contingently in January 2002 under the Incentive Plan to those members of the Corporation's senior executive group most in a position to affect the Corporation's long-term results (a combined total of 32 individuals in 2002). PSU grants are based upon a percentage of the executive's annual salary. PSUs are granted every year and are earned based upon the Corporation's performance over a three-year cycle. Each year begins a new three-year cycle. Provided the Corporation has achieved the established performance objectives at the end of the three-year cycle, a payment is made either in shares of Common Stock, cash, or a combination of both, based on the market value of the shares at the end of the cycle. In determining whether performance objectives have been achieved, specific adjustments established by the Committee may be made to the corporate performance to take into account extraordinary or unusual items occurring during the performance cycle. Payment of PSU awards may be deferred to a later date at the election of the executive. The value of each of the PSUs is tied to corporate performance (in determining what percentage of shares is earned) and stock price appreciation. The established performance measures for PSUs awarded in 2002 are earnings per share performance (three-year compound annual growth rate) growth versus internal targets and versus earnings per share growth of a peer group of 16 food, beverage and consumer packaged goods companies. The performance scores can range from 0% to 275%.

The Corporation has minimum stockholding guidelines for its executive officers and certain other key managerial and professional employees of the Corporation, which require these individuals to

accumulate over time shares of Common Stock and/or deferred PSUs. The value equivalent of the shares which must be acquired and held is equal to a multiple of the individual's base salary. For 2002, minimum stockholding requirements for executive officers ranged from three to five times base salary. If the minimum has not been met, the executive officer is required to take the PSU award in Common Stock (net of withholding taxes) or deferred PSUs. For R. H. Lenny, the applicable multiple for 2002 was five times base salary.

In January 2000, each eligible member of the senior executive group was granted PSUs having a value at the time of grant equal to a percentage of his or her annual salary. This percentage was determined by the Committee based on the recommendation of senior management and competitive survey information. For the three-year cycle ending December 31, 2002, the performance objectives established for the grant for basic earnings per share, cumulative free cash flow and economic value added were exceeded. R. H. Lenny was hired by the Corporation in March 2001 and, accordingly, was not eligible to receive an award for the 2000-2002 PSU cycle.

The table in this Proxy Statement entitled "Long-Term Incentive Program Performance Stock Unit Awards in Year-Ended December 31, 2002" provides additional information regarding PSU grants for Mr. Lenny and the four most highly-compensated executive officers other than Mr. Lenny (collectively the "named executive officers").

Long-Term Incentive Program - Stock Options

Under the Incentive Plan, stock options are granted periodically to the Corporation's senior executive group as well as to other key managerial and professional employees. Stock options entitle the holder to purchase during a specified time period a fixed number of shares of Common Stock at a set price.

The Committee sets guidelines for the number of stock options to be granted based on competitive compensation data gathered from the survey information discussed above. The number of stock options granted is a function of the employee's base pay, stock option multiples for the employee's grade level and the imputed value of the option. The Committee also takes into account management's recommendations regarding the number of options to be awarded to specific employees based on their performance as well as competitive pay practices within the food industry and the amount of options outstanding or granted previously. Prior to 2002, stock options were granted annually to members of the senior executive group and on an every other year basis to recipients other than the senior executive group (over 500 key employees). Beginning in 2002, the Committee elected to award stock options annually to all eligible recipients, including those recipients who had previously received grants on an every other year basis. However, the Committee may elect not to grant stock options in a given year.

Beginning with stock options granted after 1995, employees desiring to receive cash upon exercise through a same-day purchase and sale transaction must first meet certain minimum stockholding requirements. If the minimums are not satisfied, an individual can receive only one-half of the after-tax profit from the option exercise in cash. The remaining one-half of the profit must be retained in Common Stock. For 2002, minimum stockholding requirements ranged from one to five times base salary. For R. H. Lenny, the applicable multiple in 2002 was five times base salary.

Stock options are designed to align the interests of executives with those of the stockholders. Stock options are granted with a ten-year term and an exercise price equal to the closing market price of the Common Stock on the business day preceding the date of grant. Beginning in 2000, stock options granted to all eligible recipients, including the senior executive group, have a four-year step vesting requirement of 25% per year, with full vesting occurring at the end of the fourth year following the date of grant. Stock options provide incentives for future performance by the creation of stockholder value over the long term since the benefit of the stock options cannot be realized unless stock price appreciation occurs.

In January 2002, R. H. Lenny received options to purchase 109,600 shares of Common Stock with an exercise price of \$69.31 per share, the closing market price of the Common Stock on the business day preceding the grant. In February 2002, Mr. Lenny received options to purchase 1,800 shares of

Common Stock with an exercise price of \$69.69 per share, the closing market price of the Common Stock on the business day preceding the grant.

Long-Term Incentive Program - Other Compensation

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R. H. Lenny was awarded 15,542 RSUs in 2002 as part of a compensation package awarded to him by the Committee upon his election as President and Chief Executive Officer in March 2001. These RSUs, along with those awarded to Mr. Lenny and other named executive officers hired by the Corporation in 2001, were granted under the Incentive Plan for the purpose of replacing compensation forfeited by the executives as a result of their resignations from their former employers. In the case of R. H. Lenny, one-half of the total grant of RSUs in 2002 vested on March 12, 2002, and the remainder vested on March 12, 2003.

Policy Regarding Tax Deductibility of Executive Compensation

Section 162(m) of the Code provides that publicly-held companies may be limited in deducting certain compensation in excess of \$1 million paid to the chief executive officer and the four other most highly-compensated officers. The Committee has considered the effect of Section 162(m) of the Code on the Corporation's executive compensation program to develop its policy with respect to the deductibility of the Corporation's executive compensation. It is the Committee's position that in administering the performance-based portion of the Corporation's executive compensation program, it will attempt to comply with the requirements of Section 162(m). However, the Committee believes that it needs to retain the flexibility to exercise its judgment in assessing an executive's performance and that the total compensation system for executive officers should be managed in accordance with the objectives outlined in the Executive Compensation Philosophy section of this report and in the best overall interests of the Corporation's stockholders. Should compliance with Section 162(m) conflict with the Executive Compensation Philosophy or with what the Committee believes to be in the best interests of the stockholders, the Committee will act in accordance with the Executive Compensation Philosophy and in the best interests of the stockholders, notwithstanding the effect of such action on deductibility for any given year. However, to ensure that the Corporation does not lose deductions for compensation paid, the Committee has adopted a deferral policy requiring the executive to defer receipt of any compensation in excess of \$1 million that is not deductible in any given year to the year in which such compensation would be deductible by the Corporation.

Conclusion

In 2002, as in previous years, a substantial portion of the Corporation's executive compensation consisted of performance-based variable elements. The Committee intends to continue the policy of linking executive compensation to corporate performance and returns to stockholders.

SUBMITTED BY THE COMPENSATION AND EXECUTIVE ORGANIZATION
COMMITTEE OF THE CORPORATION'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Robert H. Campbell

Mackey J. McDonald, Chair
Gary P. Coughlan

Bonnie G. Hill

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Summary of Cash and Certain Other Compensation

The following table shows for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2002, 2001 and 2000, the cash compensation paid by the Corporation, as well as certain other compensation paid or accrued for those years, to each of the named executive officers of the Corporation.

Summary Compensation Table

| Name and Principal Position | Year | Annual Compensation | | | Long-Term Compensation | | | |
|--------------------------------|------|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|--|---------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| | | Salary ⁽¹⁾ | Bonus ⁽²⁾ | Other Annual Compen- sation | Restricted Stock Unit Awards ⁽³⁾ | Stock Option Awards | LTIP Payouts ⁽⁴⁾ | All Other Compen- sation ⁽⁵⁾ |
| R. H. Lenny | 2002 | \$ 850,000 | \$ 1,377,000 | \$ 71,191 ⁽⁶⁾ | \$ 1,052,193 | 111,400 | \$ | \$ 606,000 |

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| | | | | | | | |
|--|------|------------------------|---------|------------------------|-----------|------------------------|---------|
| Chairman of the Board, President and Chief Executive Officer | 2001 | 605,769 ⁽⁷⁾ | 900,000 | | 3,232,500 | 480,700 ⁽⁸⁾ | 2,087 |
| | 2000 | | | | | | |
| R. Brace | 2002 | 315,800 | 183,294 | | | 11,400 | 280,269 |
| Vice President, Operations and Technology | 2001 | 263,200 | 126,589 | | | 9,750 | 150,333 |
| | 2000 | 258,000 | 140,479 | | | 11,450 | 39,131 |
| | | | | | | | 4,250 |
| F. Cerminara | 2002 | 330,000 | 242,218 | | | 20,000 | 196,680 |
| Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer | 2001 | 302,000 | 208,546 | | | 16,500 | 83,873 |
| | 2000 | 227,000 | 119,407 | | | 8,050 | 27,951 |
| | | | | | | | 4,147 |
| D. J. West | 2002 | 321,808 | 229,510 | 116,137 ⁽⁹⁾ | | 12,500 | 130,758 |
| Senior Vice President, Sales | 2001 | 155,942 | 88,914 | | 1,108,879 | 10,000 | 1,414 |
| | 2000 | | | | | | |
| W. A. Willard ⁽¹⁰⁾ | 2002 | 372,000 | 173,513 | | | 18,000 | 5,931 |
| Senior Vice President, Chief Marketing Officer | 2001 | 193,846 | 276,256 | | 763,250 | 14,000 | |
| | 2000 | | | | | | |

- (1) This column includes amounts deferred by the named executive officer to the ESSIOP pursuant to Section 401(k) of the Internal Revenue Code.
- (2) Unless otherwise noted, this column represents annual cash incentive awards (paid out or deferred) attributable to services rendered for that year.
- (3) As of December 31, 2002, the number and value of the aggregate RSU holdings of the named executive officers were: R. H. Lenny 32,771 units (\$2,210,076); D. J. West 9,392 units (\$633,396); W. A. Willard 6,250 units (\$421,500). All of Mr. Lenny's RSUs became fully vested on March 12, 2003. All of Mr. West's RSUs became fully vested on January 2, 2003. For Mr. Willard, 3,125 RSUs will vest on June 12, 2003 and 3,125 RSUs will vest on June 12, 2004. On December 6, 2002, 3,125 RSUs previously awarded to Mr. Willard were forfeited (see footnote 10 below). Upon a change in control, all conditions and restrictions applicable to RSU grants will lapse. Dividends on the RSUs will not be paid unless and until the RSUs vest, at which time they will be paid from and after the grant date at the same rate as paid on the Common Stock.
- (4) This column reports the cash value earned in PSU payouts during each of the last three fiscal years at the end of the following three performance cycles: 2000-2002, 1999-2001 and 1998-2000 under the Incentive Plan which were paid or deferred in the fiscal year immediately following the last year of the respective three-year cycle.
- (5) This column includes the Corporation's matching contributions to the individual's ESSIOP account for 2002, 2001 and 2000. Compensation reflected in this column for 2002 also includes special awards approved by the Board of Directors for the following persons for extraordinary efforts during the Milton Hershey School Trust's exploration in 2002 of a possible sale of the Corporation: R. H. Lenny \$600,000; R. Brace \$10,000; F. Cerminara \$100,000; and D. J. West \$125,000. The special awards were approved by the Compensation and Executive Organization Committee and paid in 2003. Regarding Mr. Lenny's award, the Committee

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waived its policy, more fully described on page 19 in this proxy statement, requiring deferral of compensation not fully deductible under Section 162(m) to the extent his award causes a portion of his total compensation for 2003 to be non-deductible to the Corporation.

- (6) The amount shown includes \$55,472 for non-business use by Mr. Lenny of the Corporation's aircraft in 2002.
- (7) Mr. Lenny was hired by the Corporation on March 12, 2001, and was granted a total annual base salary for that year of \$750,000. The amount shown is the annual base salary earned by Mr. Lenny during the portion of the year in which he was employed.
- (8) Of the total grant to Mr. Lenny of 480,700 stock options in 2001, 400,000 options were granted as a sign-on award.
- (9) The amount shown includes \$65,211 for certain relocation and temporary housing expenses and \$50,926 for reimbursement of certain taxes paid by Mr. West in 2002.

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- (10) Mr. Willard resigned as Senior Vice President, Chief Marketing Officer effective December 31, 2002, and will be on an unpaid leave of absence until December 31, 2004. During his leave of absence or until he secures other employment, Mr. Willard will be eligible to participate in the health and welfare benefit programs of the Corporation other than disability. He will also accrue during that time vesting and service credits under the ESSIOP and pension plan and vesting of stock options and RSUs granted to him prior to the leave of absence. Stock options capable of being exercised on or before December 31, 2004 must be exercised by that date or they will be forfeited. RSUs that would not have vested by December 31, 2004 were forfeited. In January 2003, the Corporation also paid to Mr. Willard a severance payment of \$1,190,400. In return for his acceptance of the foregoing, Mr. Willard waived his right to receive severance benefits under the Benefits Protection Plan more fully described on page 26.

Long-Term Incentive Program Stock Options

The following table contains information concerning the grant of stock options under the Incentive Plan to the named executive officers as of the end of the last fiscal year.

Option Grants for the Year-Ended December 31, 2002

| Name | Individual Grants | | | | Potential Realizable Value at Assumed Annual Rates of Stock Price Appreciation for Stock Option Term | |
|---------------------------------|--|--|---|------------------------|--|--------------------|
| | Number of Securities Underlying Options Granted ⁽¹⁾ | % of Total Options Granted to Employees in 2002 ⁽²⁾ | Exercise or Base Price (\$/Sh) ⁽³⁾ | Expiration Date | 5% ⁽⁴⁾ | 10% ⁽⁴⁾ |
| R. H. Lenny | 109,600 | 8.1 | \$69.31 | 1/21/12 | \$ 4,777,320 | \$ 12,106,667 |
| | 1,800 | * | 69.69 | 2/12/12 | 78,890 | 199,922 |
| R. Brace | 11,400 | * | 69.31 | 1/21/12 | 496,911 | 1,259,270 |
| F. Cerminara | 20,000 | 1.5 | 69.31 | 1/21/12 | 871,774 | 2,209,246 |
| D. J. West | 12,500 | * | 69.31 | 1/21/12 | 544,859 | 1,380,779 |
| W. A. Willard | 18,000 | 1.3 | 69.31 | 1/21/12 ⁽⁵⁾ | 784,596 | 1,988,321 |
| All Stockholders ⁽⁶⁾ | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | \$ 5,926,114,922 | \$ 15,017,938,734 |

* Less than 1%

- (1) All stock options listed in this column are subject to a four-year step vesting requirement of 25% per year and have a ten-year term. These options were granted at the fair market value of the Common Stock on the date of grant (determined as the closing price on the business day

immediately preceding the date the options were granted). If an executive officer retires within the twelve-month period following the grant date, the number of options granted to such officer will be reduced on a pro-rata basis. All options expire at the end of the option holder's employment, except in the case of options held by an employee whose employment ends due to (i) retirement, total disability or death, in which instance the employee or his estate may exercise options capable of being exercised within five years of the date of retirement, total disability or death (three years for options granted prior to 1997) or until the date of expiration of the options, if earlier; (ii) the occurrence of a

corporate event, defined as a material, non-recurring event (such as a corporate restructuring) which results in the displacement or elimination of a significant number of jobs and which is required to be disclosed as a separate matter in the Corporation's financial statements, in which case the option holder may exercise options capable of being exercised within ninety days after the corporate event or until the date of expiration of the options, if earlier; or (iii) a change in control, in which event all options become fully exercisable and, for a period of two years following the change in control, the option holder has one year from the date of termination of employment to exercise the options or until the date of expiration of the options, if earlier.

- (2) In 2002, 598 employees were granted a total of 1,356,605 stock options.
- (3) The exercise price may be paid in cash, shares of Common Stock valued at the fair market value on the date of exercise, or pursuant to a cashless exercise procedure under which the stock option holder provides irrevocable instructions to a brokerage firm to sell the purchased shares and to remit to the Corporation out of the sale proceeds an amount equal to the exercise price plus all applicable withholding taxes.
- (4) The dollar amounts under these columns for all the individuals are the result of annual appreciation rates for the term of the options (ten years) as required by the Securities and Exchange Commission and, therefore, are not intended to forecast possible future appreciation, if any, of the price of the Common Stock.
- (5) For Mr. Willard, options capable of being exercised on or before December 31, 2004 must be exercised by that date or they will be forfeited.
- (6) For All Stockholders, the potential realizable value on 135,955,345 shares, the number of outstanding shares of Common Stock and Class B Stock on January 22, 2002, is based on a \$69.31 per share price (the exercise price of the January 22, 2002 options). The value of the Common Stock and Class B Stock at \$69.31 per share on January 22, 2002, was \$9,423,064,962. The amounts listed in this line for All Stockholders are the result of calculations at the 5% and 10% annual appreciation rates for a period of ten years from January 22, 2002, through and including January 21, 2012. The amounts are not intended to forecast possible future appreciation, if any, of the price of the Common Stock.

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The following table sets forth information with respect to the named executive officers concerning the exercise of stock options during the last fiscal year and unexercised stock options held as of the end of the fiscal year:

**Aggregated Option Exercises in Year-Ended December 31, 2002
and Year-End Option Values**

| Name | Shares | | Securities Underlying Number of Unexercised Options at 12/31/02 (#) ⁽¹⁾ | | Value of Unexercised In-The-Money Options at 12/31/02 (\$) ⁽¹⁾ | |
|-------------|--|-----------------------|---|--------------------|--|--------------------|
| | Acquired on Exercise (#) ⁽¹⁾ | Value Realized(\$) | Exer- cisable | Unexer- cisable | Exer- cisable | Unexer- cisable |
| R. H. Lenny | | \$ | 120,175 | 471,925 | \$ 335,288 | \$ 1,005,865 |

- (1) The fair market value of the Common Stock on December 31, 2002, the last trading day of the Corporation's fiscal year, was \$67.44. Except for 57,675 exercisable and 173,025 unexercisable options granted to R. H. Lenny on March 12, 2001 pursuant to a separate registration statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, all of the stock options were granted under the Incentive Plan.

Long-Term Incentive Program Performance Stock Units

The following table provides information concerning performance stock unit grants made to the named executive officers during the last fiscal year under the long-term incentive program portion of the Incentive Plan. Payments made under the program for the three-year performance cycle ending December 31, 2002 are reported in the Summary Compensation Table.

**Long-Term Incentive Program
Performance Stock Unit Awards in Year-Ended December 31, 2002**

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| Name | Number of Shares, Units or Other Rights ⁽¹⁾ | Performance or Other Period Until Maturation or Payout | Estimated Future Payouts | | |
|-------------|--|--|------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| | | | Threshold (#) ⁽²⁾ | Target (#) ⁽³⁾ | Maximum (#) ⁽⁴⁾ |
| R. H. Lenny | 10,250 | 3 years | 513 | 10,250 | 28,188 |

- (1) The PSUs reported in this table were granted to all named executive officers on January 22, 2002, for the cycle commencing January 1, 2002 and ending December 31, 2004.

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For purposes of determining the number of grants, the value of each PSU is based on the average of the daily closing prices of the Common Stock on the New York Stock Exchange as reported in *The Wall Street Journal* for the December preceding the new three-year performance cycle.

The final value of the award is determined based upon three factors. The first factor is the number of PSUs awarded at the commencement of the three-year cycle. The second factor relates to the performance score, determined as the sum of (i) actual earnings per share performance (three-year compound annual growth rate) growth versus an internal target range objective for the 2002-2004 three-year cycle, scored on a range from 0% to 250% and (ii) actual earnings per share performance (three-year compound annual growth rate) growth versus earnings per share performance (three-year compound annual growth rate) growth of a peer group of 16 food, beverage and consumer packaged goods companies for the years 2002, 2003 and 2004, scored on a range from 0% to 300%. The total performance score can range from a minimum of 0% to a maximum of 275%, based upon each of the performance measurements having a 50% weighted value in the formula. The third factor involves the value per unit which is determined at the conclusion of the three-year cycle.

- (2) This column lists the number of shares of Common Stock, the value of which would be payable to the named executive officers at the threshold achievement level of 5%. If the achievement level at the end of the three-year cycle is less than this threshold, no payments are made.
- (3) This column lists the number of shares of Common Stock, the value of which would be payable to the named executive officers at the target, or 100%, achievement level.
- (4) This column lists the number of shares of Common Stock, the value of which would be payable to the named executive officers at the 275% achievement level.
- (5) Mr. Willard will not be eligible to receive payment of his 2002 PSU award due to his resignation as an executive officer of the Corporation on December 31, 2002.

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Performance Graph

The following graph compares the Corporation's cumulative total stockholder return (Common Stock price appreciation plus dividends, on a reinvested basis) over the last five fiscal years with the Standard and Poor's 500 Index and the Standard and Poor's Packaged Foods Index.

COMPARISON OF FIVE YEAR CUMULATIVE TOTAL RETURN*
HERSHEY FOODS CORPORATION, S&P 500 INDEX AND S&P PACKAGED FOODS INDEX

| | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 |
|--------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| HERSHEY | \$ 100 | \$ 102 | \$ 79 | \$ 110 | \$ 117 | \$ 119 |
| S&P 500 | \$ 100 | \$ 129 | \$ 156 | \$ 141 | \$ 125 | \$ 97 |
| S&P Packaged Foods | \$ 100 | \$ 108 | \$ 85 | \$ 108 | \$ 110 | \$ 113 |

* Hypothetical \$100 invested on 12/31/97 in Hershey Common Stock, S&P 500 Index and S&P Packaged Foods Index, assuming reinvestment of dividends.

Employment Contracts and Benefit Protection Arrangements

Under the terms of an employment agreement entered into by the Corporation and R. H. Lenny on March 12, 2001, Mr. Lenny is entitled to an annual salary during the term of the agreement of not less than \$750,000 and to participate in the Annual and Long-Term Incentive Programs of the Incentive Plan and in the Corporation's other executive and employee benefit programs. The employment agreement also provides for a one-time sign-on award, in lieu of participation in certain on-going corporate incentive programs, of 400,000 stock options (at a price of \$64.65, the closing price of the Common Stock on the trading day preceding the date of the March 12, 2001 grant, in accordance with the Incentive Plan) and an RSU award of 65,542 units to replace compensation forfeited as a result of his resignation from his prior employer. The total compensation awarded to Mr. Lenny for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2002 is set forth in the Executive Compensation section of this Proxy Statement. Mr. Lenny's employment agreement has a continuous term of three years, unless terminated earlier. In the event the Corporation should terminate Mr. Lenny's employment without cause, he will be entitled to a lump-sum severance benefit equal to his annual salary and AIP bonus for two years, vesting of RSU awards, continued vesting of stock option awards and continuation of certain executive and employee benefits.

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On December 6, 2002, the Corporation and Wynn A. Willard entered into a Confidential Separation Agreement and General Release in connection with Mr. Willard's resignation as Senior Vice President, Chief Marketing Officer effective December 31, 2002. Under that agreement, Mr. Willard will be on an unpaid leave of absence until December 31, 2004. During his leave of absence or until he secures other employment, Mr. Willard will be eligible to participate in the health and welfare benefit programs of the Corporation other than disability. He will also accrue during that time vesting and service credits under the ESSIOP and pension plan and vesting of stock options and RSUs granted to him prior to the leave of absence. Stock options capable of being exercised on or before December 31, 2004 must be exercised by that date or they will be forfeited. RSUs that would not have vested by December 31, 2004 were forfeited. In January 2003, the Corporation also paid to Mr. Willard a severance payment of \$1,190,400. In return for his acceptance of the foregoing, Mr. Willard waived his right to receive severance benefits under the Benefits Protection Plan described below.

The Corporation provides an Executive Benefits Protection Plan (Benefits Protection Plan) for the named executive officers and other key management personnel. The terms of the Benefits Protection Plan are consistent with the practices followed by other major public corporations in the United States and generally provide that in the event the executive's employment with the Corporation terminates within two years after a change in control of the Corporation, the executive is entitled to certain severance payments and benefits. A change in control is defined to include an event in which the Milton Hershey School Trust no longer holds voting control of the Corporation and another party acquires 25% or more of the combined voting power of

common equity of the Corporation. Under the Benefits Protection Plan, upon an executive officer's termination after a change in control as described above, and in order to assist the executive in transitioning to new employment, the executive generally would be entitled to receive in a lump sum three times the executive's base salary, AIP bonus and PSU payout. The executive also would be entitled to continuation of health benefits for a period of three years and reimbursement for Federal excise taxes payable (but not for income taxes payable). The executive also would become vested in benefits under existing compensation and benefit programs (including those described in the Executive Compensation section) and generally would be paid such benefits at the time of the executive's termination or deferred at the executive's election under the Deferred Compensation Plan. Compensation deferred under the Deferred Compensation Plan and supplemental retirement benefits under the Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan would be provided by a grantor trust to be established and funded at the time of any such change in control. Executive officers are also entitled to receive certain severance payments and benefits if their employment with the Corporation is terminated in the absence of a change in control, provided that the termination is not for cause as defined in the Benefits Protection Plan. In the event of such termination, the executive would be placed on a two-year leave of absence, during which time the executive would receive his base salary, AIP bonus, previously earned and/or deferred AIP bonus and PSU awards, and benefit programs to which the executive had been entitled while in active employment (excluding disability coverage).

Pension Plans

Executive officers are eligible to receive pension benefits payable under the Corporation's qualified defined benefit pension plan (Pension Plan), as well as the nonqualified Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan that provides benefits in excess of those that may be provided under plans (such as the Pension Plan) that are subject to limitations under the Internal Revenue Code. The combined benefit paid to a participant pursuant to these plans is equal to 55% of that individual's final average compensation. Final average compensation is determined by adding the participant's three-year average of base salary and five-year average AIP bonus. The combined amounts paid under the two plans are reduced by any applicable Social Security benefits received, by a specified percentage for each month that retirement occurs before age 60, and by a specified percentage for each year that retirement occurs prior to the individual completing 15 years of service with the Corporation.

In the fall of 2001, the Board approved an early retirement plan for those full-time salaried employees (including the executive officers) of the Corporation on October 24, 2001 (and those former full-time employees who had retired after June 30 and on or before November 1, 2001) who were actively

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employed by the Corporation on December 31, 1998 and had attained the age of 45 on or before that date. To receive enhanced benefits under the plan, employees had to elect on or before December 14, 2001 to retire on January 1, February 1, or March 1, 2002, or under special circumstances the first day of a later month but not later than January 1, 2003. Employees electing the program were credited with having worked an additional five years, and their basic retirement accounts as of December 31, 2001 were increased by an amount equal to what their accounts would have been credited had they continued to work for the Corporation during those five additional years. Plan participants are also entitled to purchase retiree medical benefits at rates based upon their enhanced credited years of service and, if under 62 years of age on their date of retirement, receive a Social Security supplemental benefit payment until they reach the age of 62.

Of the named executive officers listed in the following paragraph, only Messrs. Brace and Cerminara were eligible to elect the early retirement plan, and neither elected to retire under the plan.

The final average compensation and the credited years of service as of December 31, 2002, respectively, for each of the named executive officers were: R. H. Lenny, \$1,700,000, 1.8 years; R. Brace, \$375,150, 35.6 years; F. Cerminara, \$388,006, 30.6 years; D. J. West, \$382,706, 1.6 years; and W. A. Willard, \$494,343, 1.5 years.

VOTING OF PROXIES

A proxy may be revoked at any time before it is voted at the Annual Meeting by submitting to the Secretary of the Corporation a written notice revoking it, by a duly-executed proxy bearing a later date, by a telephone or Internet vote cast at a later date, or by voting by ballot at the meeting. Shares held for each participant in the Corporation's Automatic Dividend Reinvestment Service Plan or the ESSIOP will be voted by the plan trustees as directed by the participant's proxy. If an Automatic Dividend Reinvestment Service Plan participant does not return a proxy, the participant's shares in the plan will not be voted. If an ESSIOP participant does not return a proxy, that participant's shares will be voted by the ESSIOP trustee in the same proportion as the final aggregate votes of ESSIOP participants actually voting on the matter.

SOLICITATION OF PROXIES

Solicitation of proxies will be made by use of the mails or, if consented to by a stockholder, by electronic transmission over the Internet. The cost of preparing, assembling and distributing this proxy solicitation material and Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders will be paid by the Corporation. Solicitation by mail, telephone, telefax, electronic transmission over the Internet or personal contact may be done by directors, officers and other employees of the Corporation, for which they will receive no additional compensation. Brokerage houses and other nominees, fiduciaries and custodians nominally holding shares of the Corporation's stock as of the record date will be requested to forward proxy solicitation material to the beneficial owners of such shares and will be reimbursed by the Corporation for their reasonable expenses.

SECTION 16(a) BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP REPORTING COMPLIANCE

The Corporation's executive officers, directors and 10% stockholders are required under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to file with the Securities and Exchange Commission and the New York Stock Exchange reports of ownership and changes in ownership in their holdings of the Corporation's stock. Copies of these reports also must be furnished to the Corporation. Based on an examination of these reports and on written representations provided to the Corporation, all such reports have been timely filed, except that the Corporation inadvertently failed to file on behalf of each of the following directors a report of the following transactions: one acquisition of 100 shares of Common Stock by Mr. Gary P. Coughlan; one acquisition of 67 shares of Common Stock by Ms. Bonnie G. Hill; and one acquisition of 200 shares of Common Stock by Mr. Mackey J. McDonald.

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CERTAIN TRANSACTIONS AND RELATIONSHIPS

During 2002, the Corporation and its subsidiaries had a number of transactions with Milton Hershey School, the Milton Hershey School Trust, and companies owned by the Milton Hershey School Trust, involving the purchase or sale of goods and services. These transactions were primarily with Hershey Entertainment & Resorts Company, based in Hershey, Pennsylvania, and wholly-owned by the Milton Hershey School Trust.

The aggregate value of sales made during 2002 by the Corporation and its subsidiaries to Milton Hershey School, the Milton Hershey School Trust, and companies owned by the Milton Hershey School Trust, amounted to approximately \$2,200,000. During the same year, the Corporation purchased goods and services from these entities in the amount of approximately \$2,050,000. These transactions were on terms that the Corporation believes to be no less favorable to the Corporation than those which could have been obtained from other purchasers or vendors.

In December 2002, the Corporation sold to Hershey Entertainment & Resorts Company a 70,000 square foot manufacturing facility on 9.43 acres of land in Palmyra, Pennsylvania. The purchase price for the property was \$1,450,000, the fair market value as determined by Weinstein Realty Advisors, an independent appraisal firm. The Corporation received from Hershey Entertainment & Resorts Company, in payment of the purchase price, cash in the amount of \$750,000 and complimentary two-day admission for 13,000 employees of the Corporation to *HERSHEYPARK*, a local amusement park owned by Hershey Entertainment & Resorts Company, having a market value, in the aggregate, of \$700,000. The Corporation believes that this transaction was made on terms consistent with market conditions at the time of the transaction.

OTHER BUSINESS

As of January 30, 2003, the Corporation had received no proposal, nomination for director or other business submitted in accordance with its By-Laws for consideration at the Annual Meeting, other than that set forth in the Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders and as more specifically described in this Proxy Statement, and, therefore, it is not expected that any other business will be brought before the Annual Meeting. However, if any other business should properly come before the Annual Meeting, it is the intention of the persons named on the enclosed proxy card to vote the signed proxies received by them in accordance with their best judgment on such business and any matters dealing with the conduct of the Annual Meeting.

STOCKHOLDER PROPOSALS AND NOMINATIONS

The 2004 Annual Meeting of Stockholders will be held on April 28, 2004. To be eligible for inclusion in the Corporation's Proxy Statement for the 2004 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, stockholder proposals must be received by the Corporation by

November 27, 2003.

Stockholders (other than those holding 25% of the outstanding votes entitled to be cast) who do not submit proposals for inclusion in the Proxy Statement but who intend to present a proposal, nomination for director or other business for consideration at any meeting of stockholders, including any annual meeting, are required by the Corporation's By-Laws to notify the Secretary of the Corporation of their proposal or nomination and provide other information in advance of such meeting. Stockholders interested in making proposals at the 2004 Annual Meeting must submit their name and address, their shareholdings, a brief description of the proposal and any financial or other interest they have in such proposal to the Corporation no earlier than December 24, 2003 and no later than January 23, 2004.

In addition, the Corporation's By-Laws require that a stockholder wishing to make a nomination for director at the 2004 Annual Meeting must submit the following information to the Corporation no earlier than December 24, 2003 and no later than January 23, 2004: name and address of the stockholder who intends to make the nomination; a representation that the stockholder is a holder

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of record and intends to make the nomination in person or by proxy at the meeting; a description of any arrangement between the stockholder and the individual planned to be nominated; the nominee's name, address and biographical information; and the written consent of the nominee to serve as a director if elected.

All notices for stockholder proposals and director nominations should be sent to Hershey Foods Corporation, Attn: Secretary, 100 Crystal A Drive, Hershey, Pennsylvania 17033-0810.

ANNUAL REPORT ON FORM 10-K

The Corporation will provide without charge to each beneficial owner of its Common Stock and Class B Stock, upon such stockholder's request, a copy (without exhibits) of the Corporation's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2002 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Requests for copies should be addressed to Hershey Foods Corporation, Attn: Investor Relations Department, 100 Crystal A Drive, Hershey, Pennsylvania 17033-0810.

OTHER DOCUMENTS NOT A PART OF THIS PROXY STATEMENT

This Proxy Statement is being distributed to stockholders as part of a larger publication containing other documents and information of interest to stockholders concerning the Annual Meeting. Such other documents and information include a letter to stockholders from R. H. Lenny, Chairman of the Board, President and Chief Executive Officer; helpful information about the Annual Meeting; Appendix A, which contains the Annual Report to Stockholders, including Management's Discussion and Analysis and the Consolidated Financial Statements; and Appendix B, which contains Other Stockholder Information. The letter to stockholders from Mr. Lenny on pages i through v; the information about the Annual Meeting appearing on page vi; Appendix A; Appendix B; and certain information in this Proxy Statement, specifically, the Audit Committee Report set forth on page 8 (other than any information contained therein not permitted to be so excluded), the report on 2002 Executive Compensation beginning on page 15 and the Performance Graph appearing on page 25, shall not be deemed to be soliciting material or to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission under or pursuant to the Securities Act of 1933 or the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 as currently in effect and shall not be deemed to be incorporated by reference into any filing by the Corporation under such Acts, unless specifically provided otherwise in such filing.

By order of the Board of Directors,

Burton H. Snyder
General Counsel, Secretary and
Senior Vice President, International

March 26, 2003

Stockholders who desire to have their stock voted at the meeting are requested to either (1) follow the Internet or telephone voting instructions on the enclosed proxy card or (2) mark, sign and date the enclosed proxy card and return

it promptly in the enclosed, postage-paid envelope. Stockholders may revoke their proxies at any time prior to the meeting, and stockholders who are present at the meeting may revoke their proxies and vote, if they so desire, in person.

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Appendix A

Annual Report to Stockholders

HERSHEY FOODS CORPORATION
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

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Hershey Foods Corporation and its subsidiaries (the Corporation) are engaged in the manufacture, distribution and sale of confectionery and grocery products. The Corporation was organized under the laws of the State of Delaware on October 24, 1927, as a successor to a business founded in 1894 by Milton S. Hershey.

RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Net Sales

Net sales decreased \$16.9 million from 2001 to 2002, primarily as a result of increased promotion costs and returns, discounts, and allowances, the divestiture of the *Heide* brands in 2002 and the *Luden's* throat drop business in 2001, and the timing of sales related to the gum and mint business acquired from Nabisco Inc. (Nabisco), which resulted in incremental sales in 2001 compared with 2002. A sluggish retail environment, characterized by the bankruptcies and store closings of certain customers, also contributed to the lower sales. Sales were also lower in several international markets, particularly Canada and Brazil. These sales decreases were partially offset by volume increases of key confectionery brands, including new products and line extensions, and selected confectionery selling price increases, as well as incremental sales from the Visagis acquisition, the Brazilian chocolate and confectionery business acquired in July, 2001.

In December 2002, the Corporation announced an increase of 11% in the price of standard-size candy bars effective January 1, 2003, representing an average increase of approximately 3% over the entire domestic product line. A buy-in prior to the January 1, 2003 price increase resulted in an approximate 1% to 2% increase in fourth quarter, 2002 sales.

Net sales rose \$316.8 million, or 8%, from 2000 to 2001. The increase in 2001 was primarily due to incremental sales from the mint and gum business acquired from Nabisco in December 2000 and increases in sales of base confectionery and grocery products, primarily resulting from the introduction of new confectionery products, selected confectionery selling price increases in the United States, and increased international exports. These increases were partially offset by lower sales resulting from higher promotional allowances, the divestiture of the *Luden's* throat drops business and the impact of unfavorable foreign currency exchange rates.

Cost of Sales

Cost of sales decreased \$107.5 million, or 4%, from 2001 to 2002. Cost of sales in 2002 included \$6.4 million of costs primarily related to the relocation of equipment associated with the Corporation's business realignment initiatives. Cost of sales in 2001 included \$50.1 million associated with business realignment initiatives recorded in the fourth quarter of that year. Excluding costs related to the business realignment initiatives in both years, cost of sales decreased \$63.8 million from 2001 to 2002, primarily as a result of lower costs for certain major raw materials, primarily cocoa, milk and packaging materials and reduced supply chain costs, particularly related to shipping and distribution.

Gross margin increased from 35.5% in 2001 to 37.8% in 2002. Gross margin in 2001 was negatively impacted 1.2 percentage points from the inclusion in cost of sales of a charge of \$50.1 million associated with business realignment initiatives recorded during the fourth quarter of that year. Gross margin in 2002 was reduced by .2 percentage points from business realignment charges of \$6.4 million recorded in cost of sales during the year. Excluding the impact of the business realignment initiatives in both years, the increase in gross margin from 36.7% in 2001 to 38.0% in 2002 primarily reflected decreased costs for certain major raw materials, higher profitability resulting from the mix of confectionery items sold in 2002 compared with sales in 2001 and the impact of supply chain efficiencies. These increases in gross margin were partially offset by higher promotion

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costs and returns, discounts, and allowances, which were higher as a percent of sales compared to the prior year. Gross margin was also unfavorably impacted in 2002 by poor profitability in the Corporation's Canadian and Brazilian businesses.

Cost of sales increased \$197.4 million, or 8%, from 2000 to 2001. Cost of sales in 2001 included a charge of \$50.1 million associated with business realignment initiatives recorded during the fourth quarter. The \$50.1 million charge to cost of sales resulted from the reduction of raw material inventories, principally cocoa beans and cocoa butter, no longer required to support operations as a result of outsourcing the manufacturing of certain ingredients. Excluding the impact of the business realignment initiatives, cost of sales increased \$147.3 million, primarily reflecting higher costs associated with increased sales volume, partially offset by lower costs for freight, distribution and warehousing, as well as improved supply chain efficiencies including decreased costs for the disposal of aged finished goods inventory and obsolete packaging.

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Gross margin increased from 35.3% in 2000 to 35.5% in 2001. Gross margin in 2001 was negatively impacted 1.2 percentage points from the inclusion in cost of sales of a charge of \$50.1 million associated with business realignment initiatives recorded during the fourth quarter. Excluding the impact of the business realignment initiatives, the increase in gross margin to 36.7% in 2001 resulted from lower costs for freight, distribution and warehousing, as well as improved supply chain efficiencies, including decreased costs for the disposal of aged finished goods inventory and obsolete packaging. Selected confectionery selling price increases and the profitability of the mint and gum business acquired from Nabisco also contributed to the higher gross margin in 2001. The impact of these items was partially offset by higher manufacturing costs, primarily related to higher labor rates and employee benefits costs, as well as start-up costs associated with the installation of new manufacturing equipment.

Selling, Marketing and Administrative

Selling, marketing and administrative expenses decreased by \$13.6 million, or 1.6% in 2002, primarily as a result of savings from the business realignment initiatives and the elimination of goodwill amortization in 2002, offset by \$17.2 million of expenses incurred to explore the possible sale of the Corporation, as discussed below. Excluding incremental expenses incurred to explore the Corporation's sale in 2002 and the impact of the amortization of intangibles in 2001, selling, marketing, and administrative expenses decreased \$16.0 million, or 2%, from 2001 to 2002. The decrease in 2002 primarily reflected lower advertising, depreciation and administrative expenses, partially offset by higher expenses associated with increased consumer marketing programs and selling activities.

On July 25, 2002, the Corporation confirmed that the Hershey Trust Company, as Trustee for the Benefit of Milton Hershey School (the Milton Hershey School Trust) which controls 77.6% of the combined voting power of the Corporation's Common Stock and Class B Common Stock, had informed the Corporation that it had decided to diversify its holdings and in this regard wanted Hershey Foods to explore a sale of the entire Corporation. On September 17, 2002, the Milton Hershey School Trust informed the Corporation that it had elected not to sell its controlling interest and requested that the process to explore a sale be terminated.

Selling, marketing and administrative expenses increased \$120.4 million, or 17%, from 2000 to 2001, primarily reflecting selling, marketing and administrative expenditures for the newly acquired mint and gum business, increased administrative expenses primarily resulting from higher staffing levels to support sales activity in North America and international businesses, increased marketing expenses and higher incentive compensation expense. Selling, marketing and administrative costs in 2000 included a one-time gain of \$7.3 million arising from the sale of certain corporate aircraft.

Business Realignment Initiatives

In late October 2001, the Corporation's Board of Directors approved a plan to improve the efficiency and profitability of the Corporation's operations. The plan included asset management improvements,

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product line rationalization, supply chain efficiency improvements and a voluntary work force reduction program (collectively, the business realignment initiatives). Total costs for the business realignment initiatives were \$312.4 million compared to the \$310.0 million announced in January 2002. The increased costs related primarily to higher pension settlement costs associated with the voluntary work force reduction program (VWRP) which were recorded as incurred, and more than offset the impact of the greater than expected proceeds from the sale of certain assets.

During 2002, charges to cost of sales and business realignment and asset impairments were recorded totaling \$34.0 million before tax. The total included a charge to cost of sales of \$6.4 million associated with the relocation of manufacturing equipment and a net business realignment and asset impairments charge of \$27.6 million. Components of the net \$27.6 million pre-tax charge included a \$28.8 million charge for pension settlement losses resulting from the VWRP, a \$3.0 million charge for pension curtailment losses and special termination benefits resulting from manufacturing plant closures, a \$.1 million charge relating to involuntary termination benefits and a \$.1 million charge relating to the realignment of the domestic sales organization, partially offset by a \$4.4 million favorable adjustment reflecting higher than estimated proceeds from the sale of certain assets.

During the fourth quarter of 2001, charges to cost of sales and business realignment and asset impairments were recorded totaling \$278.4 million before tax. The total included a charge to cost of sales of \$50.1 million associated with raw material inventory reductions and a business realignment and asset impairments charge of \$228.3 million. Components of the \$228.3 million pre-tax charge included \$175.2 million for business realignment charges and \$53.1 million for asset impairment

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charges. The \$175.2 million for business realignment charges included \$139.8 million for enhanced pension and other post-retirement benefits associated with the VWRP and \$35.4 million for other costs associated with the business realignment initiatives. The \$53.1 million for asset impairment charges included \$45.3 million for fixed asset impairments and \$7.8 million for goodwill impairment.

These initiatives are expected to generate \$75 million to \$80 million of annual savings when fully implemented and contributed savings of approximately \$38.0 million in 2002. As of December 31, 2002, there have been no significant changes to the estimated savings for the business realignment initiatives. The major components of these initiatives were completed as of December 31, 2002. Remaining transactions primarily pertain to the sale of certain real estate associated with the closure of facilities, as discussed below, and possible pension settlement costs related to employee retirement decisions.

Asset management improvements included the decision to outsource the manufacture of certain ingredients and the related removal and disposal of machinery and equipment related to the manufacture of these ingredients. As a result of this outsourcing, the Corporation was able to significantly reduce raw material inventories, primarily cocoa beans and cocoa butter, in the fourth quarter of 2001. The remaining portion of the project was substantially completed during the first quarter of 2002.

Product line rationalization plans included the sale or exit of certain businesses, the discontinuance of certain non-chocolate confectionery products and the realignment of the Corporation's sales organizations. Costs associated with the realignment of the sales organizations related primarily to sales office closings and terminating the use of certain sales brokers. During 2002, sales offices were closed as planned and the use of certain sales brokers was discontinued which resulted in an additional charge of \$.1 million. During the second quarter, the sale of a group of the Corporation's non-chocolate confectionery candy brands to Farley's & Sathers Candy Company, Inc. (the sale of certain confectionery brands to Farley's & Sathers) was completed. Included in the transaction were the *Heide*, *Juicyfruits*, *Wunderbeans* and *Amazin' Fruit* trademarked confectionery brands, as well as the rights to sell *Chuckles* branded products, under license. Proceeds of \$12.0 million associated with the sale of certain confectionery brands to Farley's & Sathers exceeded the 2001 estimates which resulted in a \$4.4 million favorable adjustment. Also during the second quarter, the Corporation discontinued and subsequently licensed the sale of its aseptically packaged drink products in the United States. Net sales for these brands were \$11.6 million, \$34.2 million and \$38.3 million in 2002,

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2001 and 2000, respectively. The sale of certain confectionery brands to Farley's & Sathers resulted in the closure of a manufacturing facility in New Brunswick, New Jersey which was being held for sale as of December 31, 2002. An additional charge of \$.7 million relating to pension curtailment losses and special termination benefits associated with the closure of the facility was recorded in 2002.

To improve supply chain efficiency and profitability, three manufacturing facilities, a distribution center and certain other facilities were planned to be closed. These included manufacturing facilities in Denver, Colorado; Pennsburg, Pennsylvania; and Palmyra, Pennsylvania and a distribution center and certain minor facilities located in Oakdale, California. During the first quarter of 2002, the manufacturing facility in Palmyra, Pennsylvania was closed and additional costs of \$.1 million were recorded, as incurred, relating to retention payments. During the second quarter, operations utilizing the distribution center in Oakdale, California ceased. The manufacturing facilities in Denver, Colorado and Pennsburg, Pennsylvania were closed in the fourth quarter of 2002. An additional charge of \$2.3 million relating to pension curtailment losses and special termination benefits associated with the facility closures was recorded in 2002. The Denver, Colorado facility was being held for sale and the Pennsburg, Pennsylvania facility was idle and being held for possible future use as of December 31, 2002.

In October 2001, the Corporation offered the VWRP to certain eligible employees in the United States, Canada and Puerto Rico in order to reduce staffing levels and improve profitability. The VWRP consisted of an early retirement program which provided enhanced pension, post-retirement and certain supplemental benefits and an enhanced mutual separation program which provided increased severance and temporary medical benefits. A reduction of approximately 500 employees occurred during 2002 as a result of the VWRP. Additional pension settlement costs of \$28.8 million were recorded in 2002, principally associated with lump sum payments of pension benefits.

The following table summarizes the charges for certain business realignment initiatives recorded in the fourth quarter of 2001 and the related activities completed during 2002:

| Accrued Liabilities | Balance 12/31/01 | 2002 Utilization | New charges during 2002 | Balance 12/31/02 |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| | | | | |

In thousands of dollars

| | | | | |
|--|-----------------|-------------------|---------------|-----------|
| Asset management improvements | \$ 2,700 | \$ (2,700) | \$ | \$ |
| Product line rationalization | 15,529 | (15,644) | 115 | |
| Supply chain efficiency improvements | 8,300 | (8,400) | 100 | |
| Voluntary work force reduction program | 8,860 | (8,860) | | |
| Total | \$35,389 | \$(35,604) | \$ 215 | \$ |

New charges during 2002 related to realignment of the Corporation's sales organizations and termination benefits. Utilization recorded against the liability in 2002 reflected cash payments totaling \$25.7 million and non-cash write-offs of \$9.9 million associated primarily with exiting certain businesses. The cash payments related primarily to severance payments associated with the enhanced mutual separation program and plant closures, outsourcing the manufacture of certain ingredients, VWRP administrative expenses, the realignment of the Corporation's sales organizations and other expenses associated with exiting certain businesses and maintaining properties prior to sale.

Gain on Sale of Business

In September 2001, the Corporation completed the sale of the *Luden's* throat drops business to Pharmacia Consumer Healthcare, a unit of Pharmacia Corporation. Included in the sale were the trademarks and manufacturing equipment for the throat drops business. In the third quarter of 2001, the Corporation received cash proceeds of \$59.9 million and recorded a gain of \$19.2 million before tax, \$1.1 million after tax, as a result of the transaction. A higher gain for tax purposes reflected the low tax basis of the intangible assets included in the sale, resulting in taxes on the gain of

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\$18.1 million. Net sales for the *Luden's* throat drops business were \$8.9 million and \$20.7 million in 2001 and 2000, respectively.

Interest Expense, Net

Net interest expense for 2002 was \$8.4 million below the prior year, primarily as a result of a decrease in short-term interest expense due to reduced average short-term borrowings. Net interest expense for 2001 was \$6.9 million below 2000 reflecting a decrease in short-term interest expense due to a decrease in average short-term borrowing rates and reduced average short-term borrowings.

Income Taxes

The Corporation's effective income tax rate was 36.7% in 2002, 39.7% in 2001, and 38.8% in 2000. Excluding the income tax benefit associated with charges pertaining to the business realignment initiatives and the income tax provision associated with the gain on the sale of the *Luden's* throat drops business, the effective income tax rate was 37.3% in 2001. The decrease in the effective income tax rate of .6 percentage points in 2002 primarily reflected the impact of the elimination of the amortization of intangibles effective January 1, 2002. The decrease of 1.5 percentage points from 2000 to 2001 was primarily due to the lower tax rate on the mint and gum business acquired in December 2000.

Net Income

Net income increased \$196.4 million from 2001 to 2002. Excluding the after-tax effect of the business realignment initiatives in 2002 and 2001, the after-tax effect of incremental expenses to explore the possible sale of the Corporation in 2002 and the after-tax gain on the sale of the *Luden's* throat drops business in 2001, net income increased \$44.5 million or 11%.

Net income decreased \$127.4 million, or 38%, from 2000 to 2001. Excluding the after-tax gain on the sale of the *Luden's* throat drops business and the after-tax effect of the business realignment initiatives recorded in 2001, as well as the after-tax gain on sale of corporate aircraft in 2000, net income increased \$47.8 million, or 14%, from 2000 to 2001. Net income reflecting the elimination of the amortization of intangibles would have been higher by \$13.6 million and \$13.5 million in 2001 and 2000, respectively.

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Comparable net income reflecting the elimination of the amortization of intangibles as a percent of net sales was: 10.6% in 2002, excluding the after-tax effect of the business realignment initiatives and incremental expenses to explore the possible sale of the Corporation; 9.5% in 2001, excluding the after-tax gain on the sale of the *Luden*'s throat drops business and the after-tax effect of the business realignment initiatives; and 9.0% in 2000, excluding the after-tax gain on the sale of corporate aircraft.

FINANCIAL CONDITION

The Corporation's financial condition remained strong during 2002. The capitalization ratio (total short-term and long-term debt as a percent of stockholders' equity, short-term and long-term debt) was 39% as of December 31, 2002, and 44% as of December 31, 2001. The ratio of current assets to current liabilities was 2.3:1 as of December 31, 2002, and 1.9:1 as of December 31, 2001.

In June 2002, the Corporation completed the sale of certain confectionery brands to Farley's & Sathers for \$12.0 million in cash as part of its business realignment initiatives. Included in the transaction were the *Heide*, *Juicyfruits*, *Wunderbeans* and *Amazin Fruit* trademarked confectionery brands, as well as the rights to sell *Chuckles* branded products, under license.

In September 2001, the Corporation completed the sale of the *Luden*'s throat drops business to Pharmacia Consumer Healthcare, a unit of Pharmacia Corporation. Included in the sale were the trademarks and manufacturing equipment for the throat drops business. Under a supply agreement with Pharmacia, the Corporation agreed to manufacture *Luden*'s throat drops for up to 19 months.

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after the date of sale. Under a separate services agreement, the Corporation agreed to continue to sell, warehouse and distribute *Luden*'s throat drops through March 2002. In the third quarter of 2001, the Corporation received cash proceeds of \$59.9 million and recorded a gain of \$19.2 million before tax, \$1.1 million or \$.01 per share-diluted after tax, as a result of the transaction.

In July 2001, the Corporation's Brazilian subsidiary, Hershey do Brasil, acquired the chocolate and confectionery business of Visagis for \$17.1 million. This business had sales of approximately \$20 million in 2000. Included in the acquisition were the *IO-IO* brand of hazelnut creme items and the chocolate and confectionery products sold under the *Visconti* brand. Also included in the purchase were a manufacturing plant and confectionery equipment in Sao Roque, Brazil. Had the results of the acquisition been included in the consolidated results for the full year of 2001 and for 2000, the effect would not have been material.

In December 2000, the Corporation completed the purchase of the intense and breath freshener mints and gum business of Nabisco. The Corporation paid \$135.0 million to acquire the business, including *Ice Breakers* and *Breath Savers Cool Blasts* intense mints, *Breath Savers* mints, and *Ice Breakers*, *Carefree*, *Stick*Free*, *Bubble Yum* and *Fruit Stripe* gums. Also included in the purchase were manufacturing machinery and equipment and a gum-manufacturing plant in Las Piedras, Puerto Rico. The Corporation's results of operations for 2000 did not include results of the acquisition, as the transaction was completed very late in the year. Had the results of the acquired business been included in the consolidated results for 2000, the effect would not have been material.

Assets

Total assets increased \$233.1 million, or 7%, as of December 31, 2002, primarily as a result of higher cash and cash equivalents, prepaid expenses and other current assets, and other non-current assets, partially offset by lower deferred income taxes, inventories, property, plant, and equipment, and goodwill.

Current assets increased by \$96.1 million, or 8%, principally reflecting increased cash and cash equivalents, prepaid expenses and other current assets, substantially offset by a decrease in deferred income taxes. The increase in cash and cash equivalents reflected strong cash flows from operations during the year, offset by contributions of \$308.1 million to the Corporation's pension plans. Prepaid expenses and other current assets reflected higher prepaid pension expense associated with the funding of pension plans during the year and increased original margin balances for commodity futures. The elimination of current deferred income taxes resulted primarily from the significant liability related to the tax effect on other comprehensive income associated with the gains on commodity futures contracts during the year.

Property, plant and equipment was lower than the prior year primarily due to depreciation expense of \$155.4 million and the retirement of property, plant and equipment of \$19.0 million, partially offset by capital additions of \$132.7 million. The decrease in goodwill primarily reflected the impact of the sale of certain confectionery brands to Farley s & Sathers and foreign currency translation. The increase in other non-current assets primarily resulted from the pension plan funding during the year.

Liabilities

Total liabilities increased by \$8.6 million, as of December 31, 2002, primarily reflecting a reduction in accrued liabilities, partially offset by an increase in deferred income taxes. The decrease in accrued liabilities was principally the result of lower pension liabilities resulting from the funding in 2002 and a decrease in enhanced employee benefits and other liabilities associated with business realignment initiatives recorded in the fourth quarter of 2001. The increase in total current and non-current deferred income taxes was primarily associated with the impact of the tax effect on other comprehensive income and the pension funding, respectively.

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Capital Structure

The Corporation has two classes of stock outstanding, Common Stock and Class B Common Stock (Class B Stock). Holders of the Common Stock and the Class B Stock generally vote together without regard to class on matters submitted to stockholders, including the election of directors, with the Common Stock having one vote per share and the Class B Stock having ten votes per share. However, the Common Stock, voting separately as a class, is entitled to elect one-sixth of the Board of Directors. With respect to dividend rights, the Common Stock is entitled to cash dividends 10% higher than those declared and paid on the Class B Stock.

In December 2000, the Corporation s Board of Directors unanimously adopted a Stockholder Protection Rights Agreement (Rights Agreement). The Rights Agreement was supported by the Corporation s largest stockholder, the Milton Hershey School Trust. This action was not in response to any specific effort to acquire control of the Corporation. Under the Rights Agreement, the Corporation s Board of Directors declared a dividend of one right (Right) for each outstanding share of Common Stock and Class B Stock payable to stockholders of record at the close of business on December 26, 2000. The Rights will at no time have voting power or receive dividends. The issuance of the Rights has no dilutive effect, will not affect reported earnings per share, is not taxable and will not change the manner in which the Corporation s Common Stock is traded. The Rights Agreement is discussed further in Note 15 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

Historically, the Corporation s major source of financing has been cash generated from operations. The Corporation s income and, consequently, cash provided from operations during the year are affected by seasonal sales patterns, the timing of new product introductions, business acquisitions and divestitures, and price changes. Sales have typically been highest during the third and fourth quarters of the year, representing seasonal and holiday-related sales patterns. Generally, seasonal working capital needs peak during the summer months and have been met by issuing commercial paper.

Over the past three years, cash provided from operating activities exceeded cash requirements for dividend payments, capital expenditures and capitalized software additions, share repurchases, incentive plan transactions and business acquisitions by \$177.1 million. Also during the period, the Corporation made contributions to its pension plans of \$490.7 million. Total debt decreased during the period by \$209.9 million, reflecting reduced short-term borrowings and the repayment of long-term debt. Cash and cash equivalents increased by \$179.7 million during the period.

The Corporation anticipates that capital expenditures and capitalized software additions will be in the range of \$150 million to \$200 million per annum during the next several years as a result of continued efficiency improvements in existing facilities and capacity expansion to support sales growth and new products, along with continued improvement and enhancements of computer software. As of December 31, 2002, the Corporation s principal capital commitments included manufacturing capacity expansion to support sales growth and new products, modernization and efficiency improvements and selected enhancements of computer software.

Contributions totaling \$308.1 million were made to the pension plans during 2002 primarily to improve the funded status as a result of negative returns on pension plan assets during the year. In order to improve the funded status of the Corporation s domestic pension plans, a contribution of \$75.0 million was made in February 2001. An additional contribution of \$95.0

million was made in December 2001 to fund payments related to the early retirement program implemented in the fourth quarter of that year.

Under share repurchase programs which began in 1993, a total of 19,600,982 shares of Common Stock have been repurchased for approximately \$830.0 million, including purchases from the Milton Hershey School Trust of 4,000,000 shares for \$103.1 million in 1993 and 1,579,779 shares for \$100.0 million in 1999. Of the shares repurchased, 528,000 shares were retired and 7,571,170 shares were reissued to satisfy stock options obligations, Supplemental Retirement Contributions and

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employee stock ownership trust (ESOP) obligations. Of the shares reissued, 6,228,387 shares were repurchased in the open market to replace the reissued shares. Additionally, the Corporation has purchased a total of 28,000,536 shares of its Common Stock to be held as Treasury Stock from the Milton Hershey School Trust for \$1.0 billion in privately negotiated transactions. As of December 31, 2002, a total of 45,730,735 shares were held as Treasury Stock. The share repurchase program approved by the Corporation's Board of Directors in October 1999 for \$200 million was completed in December 2002. Also in December 2002, the Corporation's Board of Directors 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. This authorization is expected to be completed within approximately 12 months, subject to trading liquidity, and will be funded by cash provided from operations and short-term borrowings.

In March 1997, the Corporation issued \$150 million of 6.95% Notes under a November 1993 Form S-3 Registration Statement. In August 1997, the Corporation filed another Form S-3 Registration Statement under which it could offer, on a delayed or continuous basis, up to \$500 million of additional debt securities. Also in August 1997, the Corporation issued \$150 million of 6.95% Notes due 2012 and \$250 million of 7.2% Debentures due 2027 under the November 1993 and August 1997 Registration Statements. Proceeds from the debt issuance were used to repay a portion of the short-term borrowings associated with the purchase of Common Stock from the Milton Hershey School Trust. As of December 31, 2001, \$250 million of debt securities remained available for issuance under the August 1997 Registration Statement. Proceeds from any offering of the \$250 million of debt securities available under the shelf registration may be used for general corporate requirements, which include reducing existing commercial paper borrowings, financing capital additions and share repurchases, and funding future business acquisitions and working capital requirements.

As of December 31, 2002, the Corporation maintained short-term and long-term committed credit facilities with a syndicate of banks in the amount of \$400 million which could be borrowed directly or used to support the issuance of commercial paper. The Corporation may increase the credit facilities to \$1.0 billion with the concurrence of the banks. In November 2002, the short-term credit facility agreement was renewed with a credit limit of \$200 million expiring in November 2003. The long-term committed credit facility agreement with a \$200 million credit limit will expire in November 2006. The credit facilities may be used to fund general corporate requirements, to support commercial paper borrowings and, in certain instances, to finance future business acquisitions. The Corporation also had lines of credit with domestic and international commercial banks of \$21.0 million and \$21.7 million as of December 31, 2002 and 2001, respectively.

The Corporation negotiated a settlement with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) of its Corporate Owned Life Insurance (COLI) program effective October 1, 2001. The resulting Closing Agreement with the IRS limited the COLI interest expense deductions for all applicable tax years and resulted in the surrender of all insurance policies, thereby ending the COLI program. The settlement was a complete resolution of all federal and state tax aspects of this program.

Cash Flow Activities

Over the past three years, cash from operating activities provided approximately \$1.8 billion. Over this period, cash used by or provided from accounts receivable and inventories has tended to fluctuate as a result of sales during December and inventory management practices. Cash provided from inventories was principally associated with a reduction of raw material inventories in December 2001 as part of the Corporation's business realignment initiatives. The change in cash required for or provided from other assets and liabilities between the years was primarily related to hedging transactions, the timing of payments for accrued liabilities, including income taxes, and variations in the funded status of pension plans.

Investing activities included capital additions, capitalized software additions, business acquisitions and divestitures. Capital additions during the past three years included the purchase of manufacturing equipment, and expansion and modernization of existing facilities. Capitalized

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software additions over the past three years were associated primarily with the ongoing enhancement of information systems.

In June 2002, the Corporation completed the sale of certain confectionery brands to Farley & Sathers for \$12.0 million in cash as part of its business realignment initiatives.

In July 2001, the Corporation's Brazilian subsidiary, Hershey do Brasil, acquired the chocolate and confectionery business of Visagis for \$17.1 million. In September 2001, the *Ludens* throat drops business was sold for \$59.9 million in cash. The acquisition of Nabisco's mint and gum business for \$135.0 million was completed in 2000.

Financing activities included debt borrowings and repayments, payments of dividends, the exercise of stock options, incentive plan transactions, and the repurchase of Common Stock. During the past three years, short-term borrowings in the form of commercial paper or bank borrowings were used to purchase Nabisco's mint and gum business, fund seasonal working capital requirements, and finance share repurchase programs. During the past three years, a total of 4,261,484 shares of Common Stock have been repurchased for \$224.4 million. Cash used for incentive plan transactions of \$274.7 million during the past three years was partially offset by cash received from the exercise of stock options of \$141.1 million. Cash used by incentive plan transactions reflected purchases of the Corporation's Common Stock in the open market to replace treasury stock issued for stock options exercises.

Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements, Contractual Obligations and Contingent Liabilities and Commitments

The following table summarizes the Corporation's contractual cash obligations by year:

| Contractual Obligations | Payments Due by Year | | | | | Thereafter | Total |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|------|------|------|------|------------|-------|
| | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | | |
| | (In thousands of dollars) | | | | | | |

In entering into these contractual obligations, the Corporation has assumed the risk which might arise from the possible inability of counterparties to meet the terms of their contracts. The Corporation's risk is limited to replacing the contracts at prevailing market rates. The Corporation does not expect any significant losses as a result of counterparty defaults.

The Corporation has entered into certain obligations for the purchase of raw materials. Purchase obligations primarily reflect forward contracts for the purchase of raw materials from third-party brokers and dealers to minimize the effect of future price fluctuations. Total obligations for each year are comprised of fixed price contracts for the purchase of commodities and unpriced contracts which have been valued using market prices as of December 31, 2002. The cost of commodities associated with the unpriced contracts is variable as market prices change over future periods. However, the variability of such costs is mitigated to the extent of the Corporation's futures price cover for those periods. Accordingly, increases or decreases in market prices will be offset by gains or losses on commodity futures contracts to the extent that the unpriced contracts are hedged as of December 31, 2002 and in future periods. These obligations are satisfied by taking delivery of the specific commodities for use in the manufacture of finished goods. For each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2002, such obligations were fully satisfied by taking delivery of and making payment for the specific commodities.

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The Corporation has entered into three off-balance sheet arrangements for the leasing of certain warehouse and distribution facilities. These off-balance sheet arrangements enabled the Corporation to lease these facilities under more favorable terms than other leasing alternatives. The operating lease arrangements are with special purpose trusts (SPTs) whereby the Corporation leases warehouse and distribution facilities in Redlands, California; Atlanta, Georgia; and Hershey, Pennsylvania, as discussed below. The SPTs were formed to facilitate the acquisition and subsequent leasing of the facilities to the Corporation. The SPTs financed the acquisition of the facilities by issuing notes and equity certificates to independent third-party financial institutions. The independent third-party financial institution which holds the equity certificates is the owner of the SPTs. The owner of the SPTs has made substantive residual equity capital investments in excess of 3% which will be at risk during the entire term of each lease. Accordingly, the Corporation is not permitted to consolidate the SPTs because all of the conditions for consolidation have not been met. Aside from the residual guarantees and instrument guarantees associated with the individual leasing arrangements, as discussed below, the Corporation has provided no other guarantees or

capitalization of these entities. The obligations in connection with these leases have not been collateralized by the Corporation. The Corporation has no obligations with respect to refinancing of the lessor's debt, would incur no significant penalties which would result in the reasonable assurance of continuation of the leases and has no significant guarantees in addition to the residual and instrument guarantees discussed below. There are no other material commitments or contingent liabilities associated with the leasing arrangements. The Corporation's transactions with the SPTs are limited to the operating lease agreements and the associated rent expense is included in cost of sales in the Consolidated Statements of Income. The Corporation does not anticipate entering into any other arrangements involving special purpose entities.

The leases include substantial residual guarantees by the Corporation for a significant amount of the financing and options to purchase the facilities at original cost. Pursuant to instrument guarantees, in the event of a default under the lease agreements, the Corporation guaranteed to the note holders and certificate holders payment in an amount equal to all sums then due under the leases.

In December 2000, the Corporation entered into an operating lease agreement with the owner of the warehouse and distribution facility in Redlands, California. The lease term was approximately ten years, with occupancy to begin upon completion of the facility. The lease agreement contained an option for the Corporation to purchase the facility. In January 2002, the Corporation assigned its right to purchase the facility to an SPT that in turn purchased the completed facility and leased it to the Corporation under a new operating lease agreement. The lease term is five years, with up to four renewal periods of five years each with the consent of the lessor. The cost incurred by the SPT to acquire the facility, including land, was \$40.1 million.

In October 2000, the Corporation entered into an operating lease agreement with an SPT for the leasing of a warehouse and distribution facility near Atlanta, Georgia. The lease term is five years, with up to four renewal periods of five years each with the consent of the lessor. The cost incurred by the SPT to acquire the facility, including land, was \$18.2 million.

In July 1999, the Corporation entered into an operating lease agreement with an SPT for the construction and leasing of a warehouse and distribution facility located on land owned by the Corporation near Hershey, Pennsylvania. Under the agreement, the lessor paid construction costs totaling \$61.7 million. The lease term is six years, including the one-year construction period, with up to four renewal periods of five years each with the consent of the lessor.

There are no penalties or other disincentives under the lease agreements if the Corporation decides not to renew any of the three leases. The terms for each renewal period under each of the three lease arrangements are identical to the initial terms and do not represent bargain lease terms.

If the Corporation were to exercise its options to purchase the three facilities at original cost at the end of the respective initial lease terms, the Corporation could purchase the facilities for a total of approximately \$120.0 million, \$79.9 million for the Pennsylvania and Georgia facilities in 2005, and \$40.1 million for the California facility in 2007. If the Corporation chooses not to renew the leases

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or purchase the assets at the end of the lease terms, the Corporation is obligated under the residual guarantees for approximately \$103.2 million in total for the three leases. Additionally, the Corporation is obligated to re-market each property on the lessor's behalf and, upon sale, distribute a portion of the proceeds to the note holders and certificate holders up to an amount equal to the remaining debt and equity certificates and to pay closing costs. If the Corporation chooses not to renew or purchase the assets at the end of the lease terms, the Corporation does not anticipate a material disruption to operations, since such facilities are not unique, facilities with similar racking and storage capabilities are available in each of the areas where the facilities are located, there are no significant leasehold improvements that would be impaired, there would be no adverse tax consequences, the financing of replacement facilities would not be material to the Corporation's cash flows and costs related to relocation would not be significant to income.

The facility located near Hershey, Pennsylvania was constructed on land owned by the Corporation. The Corporation entered into a ground lease with the lessor, an SPT. The initial term of the ground lease extends to the date that is the later of (i) the date the facility lease is no longer in effect, or (ii) the date when the Corporation satisfies the residual guarantee associated with the lease. An additional term for the ground lease begins upon the end of the initial ground lease term and ends upon the later of the date all sums required to be paid under the lease agreement are paid in full and the 75th anniversary of the ground lease commencement date. If the Corporation chooses not to renew the building lease or purchase the building, it must re-market the building on the lessor's behalf subject to the ground lease, which will continue in force until the earlier of the date all sums required to be paid under the lease agreement are paid in full and the 75th anniversary of the ground lease inception date. The lease of the warehouse and distribution facility does not include any provisions which would require the Corporation to sell the

land to the SPT.

In January 2003, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued Interpretation No. 46, *Consolidation of Variable Interest Entities, an interpretation of ARB No. 51*. This Interpretation addresses consolidation by business enterprises of special-purpose entities (SPEs) to which the usual condition for consolidation described in Accounting Research Bulletin No. 51, *Consolidated Financial Statements*, does not apply because the SPEs have no voting interests or otherwise are not subject to control through ownership of voting interests.

The Interpretation is effective for calendar year companies beginning in the third quarter of 2003 and it is reasonably possible that the Interpretation will require the consolidation of the Corporation's three off-balance sheet arrangements with SPTs for the leasing of certain warehouse and distribution facilities as described in Note 4, Commitments. The consolidation of these entities will result in an increase to property, plant and equipment of approximately \$120.0 million, with a corresponding increase to long-term debt and minority interest. The consolidation of these entities will also result in an increase to depreciation expense of approximately \$5.0 million on an annual basis.

ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND MARKET RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH DERIVATIVE INSTRUMENTS

The Corporation utilizes certain derivative instruments, from time to time, including interest rate swaps, foreign currency forward exchange contracts and commodities futures contracts, to manage interest rate, currency exchange rate and commodity market price risk exposures. Interest rate swaps and foreign currency contracts are entered into for periods consistent with related underlying exposures and do not constitute positions independent of those exposures. Commodities futures contracts are entered into for varying periods and are intended to be and are effective as hedges of market price risks associated with anticipated raw material purchases, energy requirements and transportation costs. The Corporation does not hold or issue derivative instruments for trading purposes and is not a party to any instruments with leverage or prepayment features. In entering into these contracts, the Corporation has assumed the risk that might arise from the possible inability of counterparties to meet the terms of their contracts. The Corporation does not expect any significant losses as a result of counterparty defaults.

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In June 1998, the FASB issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 133, *Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities* (SFAS No. 133). Subsequently, the FASB issued Statement No. 137, *Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities - Deferral of the Effective Date of FASB Statement No. 133, an amendment of FASB Statement No. 133* and Statement No. 138, *Accounting for Certain Derivative Instruments and Certain Hedging Activities, an amendment of FASB Statement No. 133*. SFAS No. 133, as amended, establishes accounting and reporting standards requiring that every derivative instrument be recorded on the balance sheet as either an asset or liability measured at its fair value. SFAS No. 133, as amended, requires that changes in the derivative's fair value be recognized currently in earnings unless specific hedge accounting criteria are met. Special accounting for qualifying hedges allows a derivative's gains and losses to offset related results on the hedged item in the income statement, to the extent effective, and requires that a company must formally document, designate and assess the effectiveness of transactions that receive hedge accounting.

SFAS No. 133, as amended, provides that the effective portion of the gain or loss on a derivative instrument designated and qualifying as a cash flow hedging instrument be reported as a component of other comprehensive income and be reclassified into earnings in the same period or periods during which the transaction affects earnings. The remaining gain or loss on the derivative instrument, if any, must be recognized currently in earnings. All derivative instruments currently utilized by the Corporation, including interest rate swaps, foreign exchange contracts and commodities futures contracts, are designated and accounted for as cash flow hedges. The Corporation adopted SFAS No. 133, as amended, as of January 1, 2001. Additional information with regard to accounting policies associated with derivative instruments is contained in Note 6 to the Consolidated Financial Statements, Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities.

The information below summarizes the Corporation's market risks associated with long-term debt and derivative instruments outstanding as of December 31, 2002. This information should be read in conjunction with Note 1, Note 6 and Note 8 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Long-Term Debt

The table below presents the principal cash flows and related interest rates by maturity date for long-term debt, including the current portion, as of December 31, 2002. The fair value of long-term debt was determined based upon quoted market prices for the same or similar debt issues.

Maturity Date

| (In thousands of dollars except for rates) | | | | | | | Fair Value |
|--|------|------|------|------|------------|-------|------------|
| 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | Thereafter | Total | |

The fair value of long-term debt increased \$48.2 million from the prior year as a result of a decrease in interest rates for the same or similar debt instruments as of December 31, 2002.

Interest Rate Swaps

In order to minimize its financing costs and to manage interest rate exposure, the Corporation, from time to time, enters into interest rate swap agreements. In February 2001, the Corporation entered into interest rate swap agreements that effectively converted variable-interest-rate rental payments on certain operating leases from a variable to a fixed rate of 6.1%. The fair value of interest rate swaps is defined as the difference in the present values of cash flows calculated at the contracted interest rates and at current market interest rates at the end of the period. The fair value of the swap agreements is calculated quarterly based upon the quoted market price for the same or similar financial instruments. The fair value of the interest rate swap agreements was a liability of \$7.1 million and \$2.7 million as of December 31, 2002 and 2001, respectively. The potential loss in fair value of interest rate swaps resulting from a hypothetical near-term adverse change in market

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rates of ten percent was \$.7 million and \$.3 million as of December 31, 2002 and 2001, respectively. The Corporation's risk related to the interest rate swap agreements is limited to the cost of replacing the agreements at prevailing market rates.

Foreign Exchange Contracts

The Corporation enters into foreign exchange forward contracts to hedge transactions primarily related to firm commitments to purchase equipment, certain raw materials and finished goods denominated in foreign currencies and to hedge payment of intercompany transactions with its non-domestic subsidiaries. These contracts reduce currency risk from exchange rate movements. Foreign currency price risks are hedged generally for periods from 3 to 24 months.

Foreign exchange forward contracts are intended to be and are effective as hedges of firm, identifiable, foreign currency commitments. Prior to January 1, 2001, the Corporation accounted for foreign exchange forward contracts in accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 52, *Foreign Currency Translation*, and accordingly, gains and losses were deferred and accounted for as part of the underlying transactions.

As of January 1, 2001, the Corporation accounted for foreign exchange forward contracts under SFAS No. 133, as amended. Foreign exchange forward contracts are designated as cash flow hedging derivatives and the fair value of such contracts is recorded on the Consolidated Balance Sheets as either an asset or liability. Gains and losses on these contracts are recorded as a component of other comprehensive income and are reclassified into earnings in the same period during which the hedged transaction affects earnings.

As of December 31, 2002, the Corporation had foreign exchange forward contracts maturing primarily in 2003 and 2004 to purchase \$45.1 million in foreign currency, primarily British sterling and euros, and to sell \$17.2 million in foreign currency, primarily Japanese yen, at contracted forward rates.

As of December 31, 2001, the Corporation had foreign exchange forward contracts maturing primarily in 2002 and 2003 to purchase \$24.3 million in foreign currency, primarily British sterling and euros, and to sell \$12.2 million in foreign currency, primarily Japanese yen, at contracted forward rates.

The fair value of foreign exchange contracts is defined as the amount of the difference between contracted and current market foreign currency exchange rates as of the end of the period. On a quarterly basis, the fair value of foreign exchange contracts is estimated by obtaining market quotes for future contracts with similar terms, adjusted where necessary for maturity differences. As of December 31, 2002, the fair value of foreign exchange forward contracts was an asset of \$3.1 million. As of December 31, 2001, the fair value of foreign exchange forward contracts was a liability of \$.3 million. The potential loss in fair value of foreign exchange contracts resulting from a hypothetical near-term adverse change in market rates of ten percent was \$.3

million and less than \$.1 million as of December 31, 2002 and 2001, respectively. The Corporation's risk related to the foreign exchange contracts is limited to the cost of replacing the contracts at prevailing market rates.

Commodity Price Risk Management

The Corporation's most significant raw material requirements include cocoa, sugar, milk, peanuts and almonds. The Corporation attempts to minimize the effect of future price fluctuations related to the purchase of these raw materials primarily through forward purchasing to cover future manufacturing requirements, generally for periods from 3 to 24 months. With regard to cocoa, sugar, corn sweeteners, natural gas, fuel oil and certain dairy products, price risks are also managed by entering into futures contracts. At the present time, active futures contracts are not available for use in pricing the Corporation's other major raw material requirements. Futures contracts are used in combination with forward purchasing of cocoa, sugar, corn sweetener, natural gas and certain dairy product requirements principally to take advantage of market fluctuations which provide more favorable pricing opportunities and flexibility in sourcing these raw materials and energy requirements. Fuel oil futures contracts are used to minimize price fluctuations associated with the Corporation's transportation costs. The Corporation's commodity procurement practices are intended

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to reduce the risk of future price increases, but also may potentially limit the ability to benefit from possible price decreases.

The cost of cocoa beans and the prices for the related commodity futures contracts historically have been subject to wide fluctuations attributable to a variety of factors, including the effect of weather on crop yield, other imbalances between supply and demand, currency exchange rates, political unrest in producing countries and speculative influences. Cocoa prices in 2002 rose sharply following a rebellion in the world's largest cocoa producing country, the Ivory Coast. Continued civil unrest could result in further price increases in 2003. The Corporation's costs during 2003 will not necessarily reflect market price fluctuations because of its forward purchasing practices, premiums and discounts reflective of relative values, varying delivery times, and supply and demand for specific varieties and grades of cocoa beans.

Commodities Futures Contracts

In connection with the purchasing of cocoa, sugar, corn sweeteners, natural gas, fuel oil and certain dairy products for anticipated manufacturing requirements and to hedge transportation costs, the Corporation enters into commodities futures contracts as deemed appropriate to reduce the effect of price fluctuations. Prior to January 1, 2001, accounting for commodities futures contracts was in accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 80, *Accounting for Futures Contracts*. Futures contracts met the hedge criteria and were accounted for as hedges. Accordingly, gains and losses were deferred and recognized in cost of sales as part of the product cost.

Exchange traded futures contracts are used to fix the price of physical forward purchase contracts. Cash transfers reflecting changes in the value of futures contracts (unrealized gains and losses) are made on a daily basis and prior to January 1, 2001, were included in prepaid expenses and other current assets or accrued liabilities on the Consolidated Balance Sheets. As of January 1, 2001, the Corporation accounted for commodities futures contracts under SFAS No. 133, as amended, and accordingly, cash transfers are reported as a component of other comprehensive income. Such cash transfers will be offset by higher or lower cash requirements for payment of invoice prices of raw materials, energy requirements and transportation costs in the future. Futures being held in excess of the amount required to fix the price of unpriced physical forward contracts are effective as hedges of anticipated purchases.

The following sensitivity analysis reflects the market risk of the Corporation to a hypothetical adverse market price movement of ten percent, based on the Corporation's net commodity positions at four dates spaced equally throughout the year. The Corporation's net commodity positions consist of the excess of futures contracts held over unpriced physical forward contracts for the same commodities, relating to cocoa, sugar, corn sweeteners, natural gas, fuel oil and certain dairy products. Inventories, priced forward contracts and estimated anticipated purchases not yet contracted for were not included in the sensitivity analysis calculations. A loss is defined, for purposes of determining market risk, as the potential decrease in fair value or the opportunity cost resulting from the hypothetical adverse price movement. The fair values of net commodity positions were based upon quoted market prices or estimated future prices including estimated carrying costs corresponding with the future delivery period.

For the years ended December 31,

2002

2001

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| For the years ended December 31, | 2002 | | 2001 | |
|----------------------------------|------------|---------------------------------------|------------|---------------------------------------|
| In millions of dollars | Fair Value | Market Risk (Hypothetical 10% Change) | Fair Value | Market Risk (Hypothetical 10% Change) |
| Highest long position | \$ 72.3 | \$ 7.2 | \$(15.1) | \$ 1.5 |
| Lowest long position | (30.1) | 3.0 | (96.9) | 9.7 |
| Average position (long) | 23.8 | 2.4 | (46.7) | 4.7 |

The increase in fair values from 2001 to 2002 primarily reflected an increase in net commodity positions in 2002. The negative positions primarily resulted as unpriced physical forward contract futures requirements exceeded the amount of commodities futures being held at certain points in time during the years.

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Sensitivity analysis disclosures represent forward-looking statements, which are subject to certain risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those presently anticipated or projected. The important factors that could affect the sensitivity analysis disclosures include significant increases or decreases in market prices reflecting fluctuations attributable to the effect of weather on crop yield, other imbalances between supply and demand, currency exchange rates, political unrest in producing countries and speculative influences in addition to changes in the Corporation's hedging strategies.

USE OF ESTIMATES AND OTHER CRITICAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and revenues and expenses during the period. Significant accounting policies employed by the Corporation, including the use of estimates, are presented in the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

Critical accounting estimates involved in applying the Corporation's accounting policies are those that require management to make assumptions about matters that are highly uncertain at the time the accounting estimate was made and those for which different estimates reasonably could have been used for the current period, or changes in the accounting estimate that are reasonably likely to occur from period to period, and would have a material impact on the presentation of the Corporation's financial condition, changes in financial condition or results of operations. The Corporation's most critical accounting estimates, discussed below, pertain to accounting policies for accounts receivable trade, accrued liabilities and pension and other post-retirement benefit plans.

Accounts Receivable Trade

In the normal course of business, the Corporation extends credit to customers that satisfy pre-defined credit criteria. The Corporation believes that it has little concentration of credit risk due to the diversity of its customer base. Accounts Receivable Trade, as shown on the Consolidated Balance Sheets, were net of allowances and anticipated discounts. An allowance for doubtful accounts is determined through analysis of the aging of accounts receivable at the date of the financial statements, assessments of collectibility based on historical trends and an evaluation of the impact of current and projected economic conditions. The Corporation monitors the collectibility of its accounts receivable on an ongoing basis by analyzing the aging of its accounts receivable, assessing the credit worthiness of its customers and evaluating the impact of reasonably likely changes in economic conditions that may impact credit risks. Estimates with regard to the collectibility of accounts receivable are reasonably likely to change in the future.

Over the three year period ended December 31, 2002, the Corporation recorded expense averaging approximately \$2.4 million per year for potential uncollectible accounts. Write-offs of uncollectible accounts, net of recoveries, averaged approximately \$3.0 million over the same period. The provision for uncollectible accounts is recognized as selling, marketing and administrative expense on the Consolidated Statements of Income. Over the past three years, the allowance for doubtful accounts has ranged from 2% to 3% of gross accounts receivable. If reasonably possible near-term changes in the most material assumptions were made with regard to the collectibility of accounts receivable, the amounts by which the annual provision would have changed would range from a reduction in expense of approximately \$2.6 million to an increase in expense of approximately \$1.5 million. Changes in estimates for future uncollectible accounts receivable would not have a material impact

on the Corporation's liquidity or capital resources.

Accrued Liabilities

Accrued liabilities requiring the most difficult or subjective judgments include liabilities associated with marketing promotion programs and potentially unsaleable products. The Corporation utilizes numerous trade promotions and consumer coupon programs. The costs of such programs are recognized as a reduction to net sales with the recording of a corresponding accrued liability based

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on estimates at the time of product shipment or coupon release. The accrued liability for marketing promotions is determined through analysis of programs offered, historical trends, expectations regarding customer and consumer participation, sales and payment trends, and experience with payment patterns associated with similar programs that had been previously offered. The estimated costs of these programs are reasonably likely to change in the future as a result of changes in trends with regard to customer and consumer participation, particularly for new programs and for programs related to the introduction of new products. Promotional costs were \$461.6 million, \$423.0 million and \$400.6 million in 2002, 2001 and 2000, respectively. Reasonably possible near-term changes in the most material assumptions regarding the cost of promotional programs would have resulted in changes ranging from a reduction in such costs of approximately \$13.7 million to an increase in costs of approximately \$12.0 million, with an increase or decrease to net sales and operating income within that range. Over the last three years, actual promotion costs have not deviated from the estimated amounts by more than 4%. Changes in estimates related to the cost of promotion programs would not have a material impact on the Corporation's liquidity or capital resources.

At the time of sale, the Corporation estimates a cost for the possibility that products will become aged or unsaleable in the future. The estimated cost is included as a reduction to net sales. A related accrued liability is determined using statistical analysis that incorporates historical sales trends, seasonal timing and sales patterns, and product movement at retail. Changes in estimates for costs associated with unsaleable products may change as a result of inventory levels in the distribution channel, current economic trends, changes in consumer demand, the introduction of new products and changes in trends of seasonal sales in response to promotion programs. Over the three-year period ended December 31, 2002, costs associated with aged or unsaleable products have amounted to approximately 2% of gross sales. Reasonably possible near-term changes in the most material assumptions regarding the estimates of such costs would have increased or decreased net sales and operating income in a range from \$.5 million to \$1.0 million. In each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2002, actual costs have not deviated from the Corporation's estimates by more than 2%. Reasonably possible near-term changes in the estimates of costs associated with unsaleable products would not have a material impact on the Corporation's liquidity or capital resources.

Pension and Other Post-Retirement Benefit Plans

The Corporation's policy is to fund domestic pension liabilities in accordance with the minimum and maximum limits imposed by the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 and federal income tax laws, respectively. Non-domestic pension liabilities are funded in accordance with applicable local laws and regulations. Plan assets are invested in a broadly diversified portfolio consisting primarily of domestic and international common stocks and fixed income securities. Short-term and long-term liabilities associated with benefit plans are primarily determined based on actuarial calculations. These calculations are made considering payroll and employee data, including age and years of service, along with actuarial assumptions at the date of the financial statements. The Corporation takes into consideration long-term projections with regard to economic conditions, including interest rates, return on assets and the rate of increase in compensation levels. With regard to liabilities associated with other post-retirement benefit plans that provide health care and life insurance, the Corporation takes into consideration the long-term annual rate of increase in the per capita cost of the covered benefits. In compliance with the provisions of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 87, *Employers Accounting for Pensions*, and Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 106, *Employers Accounting for Postretirement Benefits Other Than Pensions*, the discount rate assumption is reviewed and may be revised annually. The expected long-term rate of return on assets assumption (asset return assumption) for funded plans is by its nature of a longer duration and would be revised only when long-term asset return projections demonstrate that need.

Net periodic pension benefits costs for the Corporate sponsored plans were \$29.8 million, \$20.4 million and \$14.4 million, respectively, in 2002, 2001 and 2000. For 2003, net periodic pension benefits cost is expected to increase primarily due to higher recognized net actuarial losses. Actuarial gains and losses may arise when actual experience differs from assumed experience or when the actuarial assumptions used to value the plan's obligations are revised from time to time. The

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Corporation's policy is to amortize only unrecognized net actuarial gains/losses in excess of 10% of the respective plan's projected benefit obligation, or fair market value of assets, if greater. The estimated recognized net actuarial loss component of net periodic pension benefits cost for 2003 is \$15.0 million based on the December 31, 2002 unrecognized net actuarial loss presented in Note 13, Pension and Other Post-Retirement Benefits Plans, of \$305.5 million and an amortization period of primarily fifteen years, the average remaining service period of active employees expected to receive benefits under the plans (average remaining service period). Changes to the assumed rates of participant termination, disability and retirement would impact the average remaining service period. An increase in these rates would decrease the average remaining service period and a decrease in these rates would have the opposite effect. However, changes to these assumed rates are not anticipated at this time. The 2002 recognized net actuarial loss component of net periodic pension benefits cost was \$4.4 million. Projections beyond 2003 are dependent on a variety of factors such as changes to the discount rate and the actual return on pension plan assets.

For 2002, the Corporation used a discount rate assumption of 7.0% in the calculation of net periodic pension benefits cost for all plans, except for a domestic plan which used 6.5% after August 31, 2002 due to the calculation of a settlement loss on that date. The settlement also required plan assets and obligations to be valued with updated assumptions as of that date for the calculation of net periodic pension benefits cost for the period from August 31, 2002 through December 31, 2002. For 2001 and 2000, a discount rate assumption of 7.5% was used in the calculation of net periodic pension benefits cost. The use of a different discount rate assumption can significantly impact net periodic pension benefits cost. A one percentage point decrease in the discount rate assumption would have increased 2002 net periodic pension benefits cost by \$6.9 million and a one percentage point increase in the discount rate assumption would have decreased 2002 net periodic pension benefits cost by \$4.4 million. The Corporation's discount rate represents the estimated rate at which pension benefits could be effectively settled. In order to estimate this rate, the Corporation considers the yields of several high-quality fixed income investments including 30 year AA and A Corporate bonds as well as the yield of the Merrill Lynch index for 10+ year high quality Corporate bonds.

The Corporation reduced its discount rate assumption to 6.3% for valuing obligations as of December 31, 2002 from 7.0% as of December 31, 2001, due to the declining interest rate environment. A one percentage point decrease in the discount rate assumption would have increased the December 31, 2002 pension benefits obligations by \$89.6 million and a one percentage point increase in the discount rate assumption would have decreased the December 31, 2002 pension benefits obligations by \$75.4 million.

For 2002, 2001 and 2000, an asset return assumption of 9.5% was used in the calculation of net periodic pension benefits cost and the expected return on plan assets component of net periodic pension benefits cost was based on the fair market value of pension plan assets. The use of a different asset return assumption can significantly impact net periodic pension benefits cost. A one percentage point decrease in the asset return assumption would have increased 2002 net periodic pension benefits cost by \$6.2 million and a one percentage point increase in the asset return assumption would have decreased 2002 net periodic pension benefits cost by \$6.2 million.

The Corporation's pension asset investment policies specify ranges of pension asset allocation percentages for each asset class. The ranges for the domestic pension plans were as follows: large-capitalization domestic equities, 40% - 55%; small/mid-capitalization domestic equities, 10% - 20%; international equities, 5% - 15%; fixed income investments, 15% - 35%; and cash, 0% - 5%. As of December 31, 2002, the actual allocations were within the ranges, except for fixed income investments which were slightly below the minimum point of the range and cash which was approximately 18% of plan assets. During December 2002, \$150 million was contributed to the domestic pension plans which was not yet invested into one of the asset classes as of December 31, 2002. The level of volatility in pension plan asset returns is expected to be in line with the overall volatility of the markets and weightings within the asset classes disclosed.

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The Corporation will be reducing the asset return assumption for 2003 to 8.5% based on an assessment of expected average asset returns for each asset class over the next 10 years utilizing outside investment manager projections. The geometric average asset return assumptions for the asset classes were as follows: large-capitalization domestic equities, 8.9%; small/mid-capitalization domestic equities, 9.9%; international equities, 9.4%; and fixed income investments, 6.5%. The historical geometric average return over the 15 years prior to December 31, 2002 was approximately 8.9%. Actual asset losses during 2002 and 2001 were approximately (13.1)% and (5.8)%, respectively.

For 2002 and 2001, the Corporation had no minimum funding requirements for the domestic plans and minimum funding requirements for the non-domestic plans were not material. However, the Corporation made contributions of \$308.1 million in 2002 and \$172.3 million in 2001 to improve the funded status. These contributions were fully tax deductible. A one percentage point change in the discount rate or asset return assumptions would not have changed the 2002 minimum funding requirements for the domestic plans. For 2003, there will be no minimum funding requirements for the domestic plans and minimum funding requirements for the non-domestic plans will not be material. However, the Corporation may choose to make contributions in 2003 to improve the funded status.

Other post-retirement benefits costs relate primarily to health care and life insurance benefits. Net periodic other post-retirement benefits costs for the Corporate sponsored plans were \$23.7 million, \$21.8 million and \$15.0 million in 2002, 2001 and 2000, respectively. For the calculation of net periodic other post-retirement benefits cost, discount rate assumptions of 7.0%, 7.5% and 7.5% were used for 2002, 2001 and 2000, respectively. The use of a different discount rate assumption can significantly impact net periodic other post-retirement benefits costs. A one percentage point decrease in the discount rate assumption would have increased 2002 net periodic other post-retirement benefits costs by \$2.6 million and a one percentage point increase in the discount rate assumption would have decreased 2002 net periodic other post-retirement benefits costs by \$2.1 million.

The Corporation used discount rate assumptions of 6.3% and 7.0% to value the other post-retirement benefits obligations as of December 31, 2002 and 2001, respectively. A one percentage point decrease in the discount rate assumption would have increased the December 31, 2002 other post-retirement benefits obligations by \$36.9 million and a one percentage point increase in the discount rate assumption would have decreased the December 31, 2002 other post-retirement benefits obligations by \$30.9 million.

Other critical accounting policies employed by the Corporation include the following:

Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets

The Corporation adopted Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 141, *Business Combinations* (SFAS No. 141) as of July 1, 2001, and Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 142, *Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets* (SFAS No. 142) as of January 1, 2002. Through December 31, 2001, goodwill resulting from business acquisitions was amortized over 40 years. The reassessment of the useful lives of intangible assets acquired on or before June 30, 2001 was completed during the first quarter of 2002. Amortization of goodwill resulting from business acquisitions of \$388.7 million was discontinued as of January 1, 2002. Other intangible assets totaling \$40.4 million as of January 1, 2002 primarily consisted of trademarks and patents obtained through business acquisitions. The useful lives of trademarks were determined to be indefinite and, therefore, amortization of these assets was discontinued as of January 1, 2002. Patents valued at a total of \$9.0 million are being amortized over their remaining legal lives of approximately eighteen years.

The impairment evaluation for goodwill is conducted annually using a two-step process. In the first step, the fair value of each reporting unit is compared with the carrying amount of the reporting unit, including goodwill. The estimated fair value of the reporting unit is generally determined on the basis of discounted future cash flows. If the estimated fair value of the reporting unit is less than the carrying amount of the reporting unit, then a second step must be completed in order to determine the amount of the goodwill impairment that should be recorded. In the second step, the implied fair value of the reporting unit's goodwill is determined by allocating the reporting unit's fair value to all of its assets and liabilities other than goodwill (including any unrecognized intangible assets) in

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a manner similar to a purchase price allocation. The resulting implied fair value of the goodwill that results from the application of this second step is then compared to the carrying amount of the goodwill and an impairment charge is recorded for the difference.

The evaluation of the carrying amount of other intangible assets with indefinite lives is made annually by comparing the carrying amount of these assets to their estimated fair value. If the estimated fair value is less than the carrying amount of the other intangible assets with indefinite lives, then an impairment charge is recorded to reduce the asset to its estimated fair value. The estimated fair value is generally determined on the basis of discounted future cash flows.

The assumptions used in the estimate of fair value are generally consistent with the past performance of each reporting unit and other intangible assets and are also consistent with the projections and assumptions that are used in current operating plans. Such assumptions are subject to change as a result of changing economic and competitive conditions.

Goodwill was assigned to reporting units and transitional impairment tests were performed for goodwill and other intangible assets during the first quarter of 2002 and the annual impairment tests were performed in the fourth quarter of 2002. No impairment of assets was determined as a result of these tests.

Commodities Futures Contracts

In connection with the purchasing of cocoa, sugar, corn sweeteners, natural gas, fuel oil and certain dairy products for anticipated manufacturing requirements and to hedge transportation costs, the Corporation enters into commodities futures contracts as deemed appropriate to reduce the effect of price fluctuations. Prior to January 1, 2001, accounting for commodities futures contracts was in accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 80, *Accounting for Futures Contracts*. Futures contracts met the hedge criteria and were accounted for as hedges. Accordingly, gains and losses were deferred and recognized in cost of sales as part of the product cost.

In June 1998, the FASB issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 133, *Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities* (SFAS No. 133). Subsequently, the FASB issued Statement No. 137, *Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities - Deferral of the Effective Date of FASB Statement No. 133, an amendment of FASB Statement No. 133* and Statement No. 138, *Accounting for Certain Derivative Instruments and Certain Hedging Activities, an amendment of FASB Statement No. 133*. SFAS No. 133, as amended, establishes accounting and reporting standards requiring that every derivative instrument be recorded on the balance sheet as either an asset or liability measured at its fair value. SFAS No. 133, as amended, requires that changes in the derivative's fair value be recognized currently in earnings unless specific hedge accounting criteria are met. Special accounting for qualifying hedges allows a derivative's gains and losses to offset related results on the hedged item in the income statement, to the extent effective, and requires that a company must formally document, designate, and assess the effectiveness of transactions that receive hedge accounting.

The Corporation adopted SFAS No. 133, as amended, as of January 1, 2001. SFAS No. 133, as amended, provides that the effective portion of the gain or loss on a derivative instrument designated and qualifying as a cash flow hedging instrument be reported as a component of other comprehensive income and be reclassified into earnings in the same period or periods during which the transaction affects earnings. The remaining gain or loss on the derivative instrument, if any, must be recognized currently in earnings. All derivative instruments currently utilized by the Corporation, including commodities futures contracts, are designated and accounted for as cash flow hedges. Additional information with regard to accounting policies associated with derivative instruments is contained in Note 6, Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities.

Net after-tax gains on cash flow hedging derivatives reflected in comprehensive income were \$106.7 million for 2002. Net after-tax losses on cash flow hedging derivatives reflected in comprehensive income were \$7.8 million for 2001. Net gains and losses on cash flow hedging derivatives were primarily associated with commodities futures contracts. Reclassification adjustments from accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) to income, for gains or losses on cash flow hedging derivatives, were reflected

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in cost of sales. Reclassification of gains of \$17.9 million for 2002 and losses of \$19.3 million for 2001 were associated with commodities futures contracts. Gains on commodities futures contracts recognized in cost of sales as a result of hedge ineffectiveness were approximately \$1.5 million and \$1.7 million before tax for the years ended December 31, 2002 and 2001, respectively. No gains or losses on cash flow hedging derivatives were reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) into income as a result of the discontinuance of a hedge because it became probable that a hedged forecasted transaction would not occur. There were no components of gains or losses on cash flow hedging derivatives that were recognized in income because such components were excluded from the assessment of hedge effectiveness. The amount of net gains on cash flow hedging derivatives, including foreign exchange forward contracts, interest rate swap agreements and commodities futures contracts, expected to be reclassified into earnings in the next twelve months was approximately \$54.5 million and \$6.2 million after tax as of December 31, 2002 and 2001, respectively, which were principally associated with commodities futures contracts.

MARKET PRICES AND DIVIDENDS

Cash dividends paid on the Corporation's Common Stock and Class B Stock were \$167.8 million in 2002 and \$154.8 million in 2001. The annual dividend rate on the Common Stock in 2002 was \$1.31 per share, an increase of 8% over the 2001 rate of \$1.21 per share. The 2002 dividend increase represented the 28th consecutive year of Common Stock dividend increases.

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On February 12, 2003, the Corporation's Board of Directors declared a quarterly dividend of \$.3275 per share of Common Stock payable on March 14, 2003, to stockholders of record as of February 25, 2003. It is the Corporation's 293rd consecutive Common Stock dividend. A quarterly dividend of \$.295 per share of Class B Stock also was declared.

Hershey Foods Corporation's Common Stock is listed and traded principally on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) under the ticker symbol HSY. Approximately 211.2 million shares of the Corporation's Common Stock were traded during 2002. The Class B Stock is not publicly traded.

The closing price of the Common Stock on December 31, 2002, was \$67.44. There were 38,754 stockholders of record of the Common Stock and the Class B Stock as of December 31, 2002.

The following table shows the dividends paid per share of Common Stock and Class B Stock and the price range of the Common Stock for each quarter of the past two years:

| | Dividends Paid Per Share | | Common Stock Price Range* | |
|--------------|-----------------------------|------------------|------------------------------|----------|
| | Common Stock | Class B Stock | High | Low |
| 2002 | | | | |
| 1st Quarter | \$.3025 | \$.2725 | \$ 72.49 | \$ 65.92 |
| 2nd Quarter | .3025 | .2725 | 72.14 | 62.13 |
| 3rd Quarter | .3275 | .2950 | 79.49 | 56.45 |
| 4th Quarter | .3275 | .2950 | 67.99 | 61.22 |
| Total | \$ 1.2600 | \$ 1.1350 | | |
| 2001 | | | | |
| 1st Quarter | \$.2800 | \$.2525 | \$ 70.15 | \$ 55.13 |
| 2nd Quarter | .2800 | .2525 | 69.58 | 58.55 |
| 3rd Quarter | .3025 | .2725 | 66.45 | 58.70 |
| 4th Quarter | .3025 | .2725 | 68.62 | 60.40 |
| Total | \$ 1.1650 | \$ 1.0500 | | |

* NYSE-Composite Quotations for Common Stock by calendar quarter.

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RETURN MEASURES

Operating Return on Average Stockholders' Equity

The Corporation's operating return on average stockholders' equity was 34.6% in 2002. Over the most recent six-year period, the return has ranged from 28.9% in 1999 to 37.6% in 1998. For the purpose of calculating operating return on average stockholders' equity, earnings is defined as net income adjusted to reflect the impact of the elimination of the amortization of intangibles for all years and excluding the after-tax effect of incremental expenses to explore the possible sale of the Corporation in 2002, the after-tax effect of the business realignment initiatives in 2002 and 2001, and the after-tax gains on the sale of the *Luden's* throat drops business in 2001, the sale of corporate aircraft in 2000, and the sale of the pasta business in 1999.

Operating Return on Average Invested Capital

The Corporation's operating return on average invested capital was 19.7% in 2002. Over the most recent six-year period, the return has ranged from 15.4% in 1999 to 19.7% in 2002. Average invested capital consists of the annual average of beginning and ending balances of long-term debt, deferred income taxes and stockholders' equity. For the purpose of calculating operating

return on average invested capital, earnings is defined as net income adjusted to reflect the impact of the elimination of the amortization of intangibles for all years and excluding the after-tax effect of incremental expenses to explore the possible sale of the Corporation in 2002, the after-tax effect of the business realignment initiatives in 2002 and 2001, the after-tax gains on the sale of the *Luden*'s throat drops business in 2001, the sale of corporate aircraft in 2000, and the sale of the pasta business in 1999, and the after-tax effect of interest on long-term debt.

OUTLOOK

The outlook section contains a number of forward-looking statements, all of which are based on current expectations. Actual results may differ materially.

Going forward, the Corporation has set balanced long-term goals, including: three to four percent revenue growth; continued gross margin expansion; nine to eleven percent growth in earnings per share; improvement in returns on invested capital and continued market share gains. In December 2002, the Corporation announced an increase of approximately 11% in the price of standard-size candy bars effective January 1, 2003, representing an average increase of 3% over the entire domestic product line. Sales volume growth in 2003 is expected to be somewhat lower than the Corporation's long-term goal as a result of the price increase and sales growth in the first quarter of 2003 will be lower as a result of the buy-in in the fourth quarter of 2002.

The Corporation intends to make further gains in market share and to increase spending on brand building and selling capabilities in 2003. Results in 2003 will also benefit from cost savings generated from the business realignment initiatives and continued control of administrative costs.

The Corporation expects to expand margins in 2003, as the Corporation continues to increase sales in more profitable product lines and improve operating efficiencies throughout the supply chain. In addition, commodity costs are anticipated to be relatively stable in 2003 as a result of the Corporation's forward purchasing and hedging practices. The Corporation plans to achieve earnings per share growth of nine to eleven percent in 2003 from its operating performance and execution of its share repurchase program, as discussed below.

Profitability in future periods is affected by various factors, including sales volume, selling prices, raw material and logistics costs, manufacturing efficiencies and the mix of products sold in any period. Cocoa market prices rose sharply during 2002 and this increase accelerated following a rebellion in the world's largest cocoa producing country, the Ivory Coast. Continued civil unrest in the Ivory Coast could result in further cocoa price increases. The Corporation's costs during 2003 and beyond will not necessarily reflect market price fluctuations because of its forward purchasing practices, premiums and discounts reflective of relative values, varying delivery times, and supply

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and demand for specific varieties and grades of cocoa beans. The Corporation's costs for cocoa will increase substantially in 2004; however, the Corporation expects to achieve its long-term goals for growth and profitability by a combination of price increases and/or product weight changes, improved sales mix, supply chain cost reductions and strict control of other costs to offset potential cost increases and respond to changes in the competitive environment.

The Corporation expects strong cash flows from operating activities in 2003. Net cash provided from operating activities is expected to exceed cash requirements for capital additions, capitalized software additions and anticipated dividend payments. The Corporation will continue to monitor the funded status of pension plans based on market performance and make future contributions as appropriate. The Corporation announced on December 12, 2002, that it is authorized to acquire up to \$500 million of the Corporation's Common Stock in open market or through privately negotiated transactions. This authorization is expected to be completed within approximately 12 months, subject to trading liquidity, and will be funded by cash provided from operations and short-term borrowings.

Safe Harbor Statement

The nature of the Corporation's operations and the environment in which it operates subject it to changing economic, competitive, regulatory and technological conditions, risks and uncertainties. In connection with the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, the Corporation notes the following factors that, among others, could cause future results to differ materially from the forward-looking statements, expectations and assumptions expressed or implied herein. Many of the forward-looking statements contained in this document may be identified by the use of forward-looking words such as intend, believe, expect, anticipate, should, planned, estimated and potential, among others.

Factors which could cause results to differ include, but are not limited to: changes in the confectionery and grocery business environment, including actions of competitors and changes in consumer preferences; customer and consumer response to selling price increases; changes in governmental laws and regulations, including taxes; market demand for new and existing products; changes in raw material and other costs; pension cost factors, such as actuarial assumptions and employee retirement decisions; and the Corporation's ability to implement improvements to and reduce costs associated with the Corporation's supply chain.

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HERSHEY FOODS CORPORATION
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME

| For the years ended December 31, | 2002 | 2001 | 2000 |
|----------------------------------|------|------|------|
|----------------------------------|------|------|------|

In thousands of dollars except per share amounts

The notes to consolidated financial statements are an integral part of these statements.

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HERSHEY FOODS CORPORATION
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

| December 31, | 2002 | 2001 |
|--------------|------|------|
|--------------|------|------|

In thousands of dollars

ASSETS

Current Assets:

| | | |
|----------------------------|------------|------------|
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$ 297,743 | \$ 134,147 |
| Accounts receivable-trade | 370,976 | 361,726 |
| Inventories | 503,291 | 512,134 |
| Deferred income taxes | | 96,939 |
| Prepaid expenses and other | 91,608 | 62,595 |

| | | |
|----------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Total current assets | 1,263,618 | 1,167,541 |
|----------------------|-----------|-----------|

| | | |
|---|------------------|------------------|
| Property, Plant and Equipment, Net | 1,486,055 | 1,534,901 |
|---|------------------|------------------|

| | | |
|----------|---------|---------|
| Goodwill | 378,453 | 388,702 |
|----------|---------|---------|

| | | |
|-------------------|--------|--------|
| Other Intangibles | 39,898 | 40,426 |
|-------------------|--------|--------|

| | | |
|--------------|---------|---------|
| Other Assets | 312,527 | 115,860 |
|--------------|---------|---------|

| | | |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Total assets | \$ 3,480,551 | \$ 3,247,430 |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|

LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY

Current Liabilities:

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------|------------|
| Accounts payable | \$ 124,507 | \$ 133,049 |
| Accrued liabilities | 356,716 | 462,901 |
| Accrued income taxes | 12,731 | 2,568 |
| Deferred income taxes | 24,768 | |
| Short-term debt | 11,135 | 7,005 |
| Current portion of long-term debt | 16,989 | 921 |

| | | |
|---------------------------|---------|---------|
| Total current liabilities | 546,846 | 606,444 |
|---------------------------|---------|---------|

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| December 31, | 2002 | 2001 |
|--|---------------------|--------------|
| Long-term Debt | 851,800 | 876,972 |
| Other Long-term Liabilities | 362,162 | 361,041 |
| Deferred Income Taxes | 348,040 | 255,769 |
| Total liabilities | 2,108,848 | 2,100,226 |
| Stockholders Equity: | | |
| Preferred Stock, shares issued: none in 2002 and 2001 | | |
| Common Stock, shares issued: 149,528,564 in 2002 and 149,517,064 in 2001 | 149,528 | 149,516 |
| Class B Common Stock, shares issued: 30,422,308 in 2002 and 30,433,808 in 2001 | 30,422 | 30,434 |
| Additional paid-in capital | 593 | 3,263 |
| Unearned ESOP compensation | (12,774) | (15,967) |
| Retained earnings | 2,991,090 | 2,755,333 |
| Treasury Common Stock shares, at cost: 45,730,735 in 2002 and 44,311,870 in 2001 | (1,808,227) | (1,689,243) |
| Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) | 21,071 | (86,132) |
| Total stockholders equity | 1,371,703 | 1,147,204 |
| Total liabilities and stockholders equity | \$ 3,480,551 | \$ 3,247,430 |

The notes to consolidated financial statements are an integral part of these balance sheets.

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HERSHEY FOODS CORPORATION
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

For the years ended December 31, 2002 2001 2000

In thousands of dollars

The notes to consolidated financial statements are an integral part of these statements.

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HERSHEY FOODS CORPORATION
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY

| | Preferred Stock | Common Stock | Class B Common Stock | Additional Paid-in Capital | Unearned ESOP Compensation | Retained Earnings | Treasury Common Stock | Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss) | Total Stockholders Equity |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|----------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|---|---------------------------|
| In thousands of dollars | | | | | | | | | |
| Balance as of January 1, 2000 | \$ | \$ 149,507 | \$ 30,443 | \$ 30,079 | \$ (22,354) | \$ 2,513,275 | \$ (1,552,708) | \$ (49,615) | \$ 1,098,627 |
| Net income | | | | | | 334,543 | | | 334,543 |
| Other comprehensive (loss) | | | | | | | | (7,101) | (7,101) |
| Comprehensive income | | | | | | | | | 327,442 |

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| | Preferred Stock | Common Stock | Class B Common Stock | Additional Paid-in Capital | Unearned ESOP Compensation | Retained Earnings | Treasury Common Stock | Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss) | Total Stockholders Equity |
|--|-----------------|--------------|----------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|---|---------------------------|
| Dividends: | | | | | | | | | |
| Common Stock, \$1.08 per share | | | | | | (115,209) | | | (115,209) |
| Class B Common Stock, \$.975 per share | | | | | | (29,682) | | | (29,682) |
| Conversion of Class B Common Stock into Common Stock | | 1 | (1) | | | | | | |
| Incentive plan transactions | | | | (426) | | | | | (426) |
| Exercise of stock options | | | | (16,728) | | | 7,551 | | (9,177) |
| Employee stock ownership trust/benefits transactions | | | | 199 | 3,193 | | | | 3,392 |
| Repurchase of Common Stock | | | | | | | (99,931) | | (99,931) |
| Balance as of December 31, 2000 | | 149,508 | 30,442 | 13,124 | (19,161) | 2,702,927 | (1,645,088) | (56,716) | 1,175,036 |
| Net income | | | | | | 207,156 | | | 207,156 |
| Other comprehensive (loss) | | | | | | | | (29,416) | (29,416) |
| Comprehensive income | | | | | | | | | 177,740 |
| Dividends: | | | | | | | | | |
| Common Stock, \$1.165 per share | | | | | | (122,790) | | | (122,790) |
| Class B Common Stock, \$1.05 per share | | | | | | (31,960) | | | (31,960) |
| Conversion of Class B Common Stock into Common Stock | | 8 | (8) | | | | | | |
| Incentive plan transactions | | | | 1,062 | | | | | 1,062 |
| Exercise of stock options | | | | (11,863) | | | (3,833) | | (15,696) |
| Employee stock ownership trust/benefits transactions | | | | 940 | 3,194 | | | | 4,134 |
| Repurchase of Common Stock | | | | | | | (40,322) | | (40,322) |
| Balance as of December 31, 2001 | | 149,516 | 30,434 | 3,263 | (15,967) | 2,755,333 | (1,689,243) | (86,132) | 1,147,204 |
| Net income | | | | | | 403,578 | | | 403,578 |
| Other comprehensive income | | | | | | | | 107,203 | 107,203 |
| Comprehensive income | | | | | | | | | 510,781 |
| Dividends: | | | | | | | | | |
| Common Stock, \$1.26 per share | | | | | | (133,285) | | | (133,285) |
| Class B Common Stock, \$1.135 per share | | | | | | (34,536) | | | (34,536) |
| Conversion of Class B Common Stock into Common Stock | | 12 | (12) | | | | | | |
| Incentive plan transactions | | | | (298) | | | | | (298) |
| Exercise of stock options | | | | (3,517) | | | (34,790) | | (38,307) |
| Employee stock ownership trust/benefits transactions | | | | 1,145 | 3,193 | | | | 4,338 |
| Repurchase of Common Stock | | | | | | | (84,194) | | (84,194) |
| Balance as of December 31, 2002 | \$ | \$ 149,528 | \$ 30,422 | \$ 593 | \$ (12,774) | \$ 2,991,090 | \$ (1,808,227) | \$ 21,071 | \$ 1,371,703 |

The notes to consolidated financial statements are an integral part of these statements.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Significant accounting policies employed by the Corporation are discussed below and in other notes to the consolidated financial statements.

Items Affecting Comparability

Certain reclassifications have been made to prior year amounts to conform to the 2002 presentation. During 2000 and 2001, the Financial Accounting Standards Board's Emerging Issues Task Force (EITF) addressed various issues related to the income statement classification of certain promotional payments, including consideration from a vendor to a reseller or another party that purchases the vendor's products. EITF No. 01-9, *Accounting for Consideration Given by a Vendor to a Customer or Reseller of the Vendor's Products*, was issued in November 2001 and codified earlier pronouncements. In accordance with EITF No. 01-9, certain consumer and trade promotion expenses, such as consumer coupon redemption expense, off-invoice allowances and various marketing performance funds previously reported in selling, marketing and administrative expense were reclassified as a reduction of net sales. Reclassifications for 2001 and 2000 were \$423.0 million and \$400.6 million, respectively. In addition, certain freight billings totaling \$3.0 million for 2001, previously reported in cost of sales, were reclassified as an increase to net sales.

The consolidated financial statements include the impact of the Corporation's business realignment initiatives as described in Note 3. Cost of sales included charges resulting from the business realignment initiatives of \$6.4 million and \$50.1 million for the years ended December 31, 2002 and 2001, respectively. Additionally, selling, marketing and administrative expenses for the year ended December 31, 2002, included expenses of \$17.2 million associated with the exploration of the potential sale of the Corporation.

Principles of Consolidation

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Corporation and its majority-owned subsidiaries after elimination of intercompany accounts and transactions.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and revenues and expenses during the period. Critical accounting estimates involved in applying the Corporation's accounting policies are those that require management to make assumptions about matters that are highly uncertain at the time the accounting estimate was made and those for which different estimates reasonably could have been used for the current period, or changes in the accounting estimate that are reasonably likely to occur from period to period, and would have a material impact on the presentation of the Corporation's financial condition, changes in financial condition or results of operations. The Corporation's most critical accounting estimates pertain to accounting policies for accounts receivable trade, accrued liabilities and pension and other post-retirement benefit plans.

Revenue Recognition

The Corporation records sales when all of the following criteria have been met: a valid customer order with a fixed price has been received; a delivery appointment with the customer has been made; the product has been shipped in accordance with the delivery appointment within the required lead time; there is no further significant obligation to assist in the resale of the product; and collectibility is reasonably assured.

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Cash Equivalents

Cash equivalents consist of highly liquid debt instruments, time deposits and money market funds with original maturities of three months or less. The fair value of cash and cash equivalents approximates the carrying amount.

Commodities Futures Contracts

In connection with the purchasing of cocoa, sugar, corn sweeteners, natural gas, fuel oil and certain dairy products for anticipated manufacturing requirements and to hedge transportation costs, the Corporation enters into commodities futures contracts as deemed appropriate to reduce the effect of price fluctuations. Prior to January 1, 2001, accounting for commodities futures contracts was in accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 80, *Accounting for Futures Contracts*. Futures contracts met the hedge criteria and were accounted for as hedges. Accordingly, gains and losses were deferred and recognized in cost of sales as part of the product cost.

In June 1998, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 133, *Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities* (SFAS No. 133). Subsequently, the FASB issued Statement No. 137, *Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities - Deferral of the Effective Date of FASB Statement No. 133, an amendment of FASB Statement No. 133* and Statement No. 138, *Accounting for Certain Derivative Instruments and Certain Hedging Activities, an amendment of FASB Statement No. 133*. SFAS No. 133, as amended, establishes accounting and reporting standards requiring that every derivative instrument be recorded on the balance sheet as either an asset or liability measured at its fair value. SFAS No. 133, as amended, requires that changes in the derivative's fair value be recognized currently in earnings unless specific hedge accounting criteria are met. Special accounting for qualifying hedges allows a derivative's gains and losses to offset related results on the hedged item in the income statement, to the extent effective, and requires that a company must formally document, designate, and assess the effectiveness of transactions that receive hedge accounting.

The Corporation adopted SFAS No. 133, as amended, as of January 1, 2001. SFAS No. 133, as amended, provides that the effective portion of the gain or loss on a derivative instrument designated and qualifying as a cash flow hedging instrument be reported as a component of other comprehensive income and be reclassified into earnings in the same period or periods during which the transaction affects earnings. The remaining gain or loss on the derivative instrument, if any, must be recognized currently in earnings. All derivative instruments currently utilized by the Corporation, including commodities futures contracts, are designated and accounted for as cash flow hedges. Additional information with regard to accounting policies associated with derivative instruments is contained in Note 6, Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities.

Property, Plant and Equipment

Property, plant and equipment are stated at cost and are depreciated on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of the assets, as follows: 3 to 15 years for machinery and equipment; and 25 to 40 years for buildings and related improvements. Maintenance and repair expenditures are charged to expense as incurred. Applicable interest charges incurred during the construction of new facilities and production lines are capitalized as one of the elements of cost and are amortized over the assets' estimated useful lives.

The Corporation reviews long-lived assets for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of such assets may not be recoverable. Recoverability of assets to be held and used is measured by a comparison of the carrying amount of long-lived assets to future undiscounted net cash flows expected to be generated, in accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 144, *Accounting for the Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets*. If such assets are considered to be impaired, the impairment recognized is measured by the amount by which the carrying amount of the assets exceeds the fair value of the assets. Assets to be disposed of are reported at the lower of the carrying amount or fair value less cost to sell.

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Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets

The Corporation adopted Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 141, *Business Combinations* (SFAS No. 141) as of July 1, 2001, and Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 142, *Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets* (SFAS No. 142) as of January 1, 2002. Through December 31, 2001, goodwill resulting from business acquisitions was amortized over 40 years. The reassessment of the useful lives of intangible assets acquired on or before June 30, 2001 was completed during the first quarter of 2002. Amortization of goodwill resulting from business acquisitions of \$388.7 million was discontinued as of January 1, 2002. Other intangible assets totaling \$40.4 million as of January 1, 2002 primarily consisted of trademarks and patents obtained through business acquisitions. The useful lives of trademarks were determined to be indefinite and, therefore, amortization of these assets was discontinued as of January 1, 2002. Patents valued at a total of \$9.0 million are being amortized over their remaining legal lives of approximately eighteen years.

The impairment evaluation for goodwill is conducted annually using a two-step process. In the first step, the fair value of each reporting unit is compared with the carrying amount of the reporting unit, including goodwill. The estimated fair value of the reporting unit is generally determined on the basis of discounted future cash flows. If the estimated fair value of the reporting unit is less than the carrying amount of the reporting unit, then a second step must be completed in order to determine the amount of the goodwill impairment that should be recorded. In the second step, the implied fair value of the reporting unit's goodwill is determined by allocating the reporting unit's fair value to all of its assets and liabilities other than goodwill (including any unrecognized intangible assets) in a manner similar to a purchase price allocation. The resulting implied fair value of the goodwill that results from the application of this second step is then compared to the carrying amount of the goodwill and an impairment charge is recorded for the difference.

The evaluation of the carrying amount of other intangible assets with indefinite lives is made annually by comparing the carrying amount of these assets to their estimated fair value. If the estimated fair value is less than the carrying amount of the other intangible assets with indefinite lives, then an impairment charge is recorded to reduce the asset to its estimated fair value. The estimated fair value is generally determined on the basis of discounted future cash flows.

The assumptions used in the estimate of fair value are generally consistent with the past performance of each reporting unit and other intangible assets and are also consistent with the projections and assumptions that are used in current operating plans. Such assumptions are subject to change as a result of changing economic and competitive conditions.

Goodwill was assigned to reporting units and transitional impairment tests were performed for goodwill and other intangible assets during the first quarter of 2002 and the annual impairment tests were performed in the fourth quarter of 2002. No impairment of assets was determined as a result of these tests.

Comprehensive Income

Comprehensive income (loss) is reported on the Consolidated Statements of Stockholders' Equity and accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) is reported on the Consolidated Balance Sheets. Additional information regarding comprehensive income is contained in Note 7, Comprehensive Income.

Results of operations for foreign entities are translated using the average exchange rates during the period. For foreign entities, assets and liabilities are translated to U.S. dollars using the exchange rates in effect at the balance sheet date. Resulting translation adjustments are recorded as a component of other comprehensive income (loss), Foreign Currency Translation Adjustments.

A minimum pension liability adjustment is required when the actuarial present value of accumulated pension plan benefits exceeds plan assets and accrued pension liabilities, less allowable intangible assets. Minimum pension liability adjustments, net of income taxes, are recorded as a component of other comprehensive income (loss), Minimum Pension Liability Adjustments.

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The Corporation adopted SFAS No. 133, as amended, as of January 1, 2001. Accordingly, gains and losses on cash flow hedging derivatives, to the extent effective, are included in other comprehensive income (loss) and reclassification adjustments are recorded as such gains and losses are ratably recorded in income in the same period as the hedged items affect earnings. Additional information with regard to accounting policies associated with derivative instruments is contained in Note 6, Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities.

Foreign Exchange Contracts

The Corporation enters into foreign exchange forward contracts to hedge transactions primarily related to firm commitments to purchase equipment, certain raw materials and finished goods denominated in foreign currencies, and to hedge payment of intercompany transactions with its subsidiaries outside the United States. These contracts reduce currency risk from exchange rate movements.

Foreign exchange forward contracts are intended to be and are effective as hedges of firm, identifiable, foreign currency commitments. Prior to January 1, 2001, the Corporation accounted for foreign exchange forward contracts in accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 52, *Foreign Currency Translation*, and accordingly, gains and losses were deferred and accounted for as part of the underlying transactions. The Corporation adopted SFAS No. 133, as amended, as of January 1, 2001. Foreign exchange forward contracts are designated as cash flow hedging derivatives and the fair value of such

contracts is recorded on the Consolidated Balance Sheets as either an asset or liability. Gains and losses on these contracts are recorded as a component of other comprehensive income and are reclassified into earnings in the same period during which the hedged transaction affects earnings. Additional information with regard to accounting policies for derivative instruments, including foreign exchange forward contracts, is contained in Note 6, Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities.

License Agreements

The Corporation has entered into license agreements under which it has access to certain trademarks and proprietary technology, and manufactures and/or markets and distributes certain products. The rights under these agreements are extendible on a long-term basis at the Corporation's option subject to certain conditions, including minimum sales levels, which the Corporation has met. License fees and royalties, payable under the terms of the agreements, are expensed as incurred and included in selling, marketing and administrative expenses.

Research and Development

The Corporation expenses research and development costs as incurred. Research and development expense was \$23.4 million, \$26.5 million and \$25.4 million in 2002, 2001 and 2000, respectively.

Advertising

The Corporation expenses advertising costs as incurred. Advertising expense was \$162.9 million, \$187.2 million and \$156.3 million in 2002, 2001 and 2000, respectively. Prepaid advertising as of December 31, 2002 and 2001, was \$1.3 million and \$4.0 million, respectively.

Computer Software

The Corporation capitalizes costs associated with software developed or obtained for internal use when both the preliminary project stage is completed and it is probable that computer software being developed will be completed and placed in service. Capitalized costs include only (1) external direct costs of materials and services consumed in developing or obtaining internal-use software, (2) payroll and other related costs for employees who are directly associated with and who devote time to the internal-use software project, and (3) interest costs incurred, when material, while developing internal-use software. Capitalization of such costs ceases no later than the point at which the project is substantially complete and ready for its intended purpose.

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The unamortized amount of capitalized software as of December 31, 2002 and 2001, was \$41.3 million and \$51.6 million, respectively. Software costs are amortized using the straight-line method over the shorter of five years or the expected life of the software. Accumulated amortization of capitalized software was \$78.4 million and \$56.9 million as of December 31, 2002 and 2001, respectively.

The Corporation reviews the carrying value of software and development costs for impairment in accordance with its policy pertaining to the impairment of long-lived assets. Generally, measurement of impairment occurs when internal use computer software is not expected to provide substantive service potential, a significant change occurs in the extent or manner in which the software is used or is expected to be used, a significant change is made or will be made to the software program, or costs of developing or modifying internal-use computer software significantly exceed the amount originally expected to develop or modify the software.

Employee Stock Options

As of December 31, 2002, the Corporation had two stock-based employee compensation plans, which are described more fully in Note 16, Stock Compensation Plans. The Corporation applies the recognition and measurement principles of Accounting Principles Board Opinion No. 25, *Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees*, and related Interpretations in accounting for those plans. No stock-based employee compensation expense is reflected in net income as all stock options granted under those plans had an exercise price equal to the market value of the underlying common stock on the date of grant. The following table illustrates the effect on net income and earnings per share if the Corporation had applied the fair value recognition provisions of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123, *Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation*, to stock-based employee compensation.

| For the years ended December 31, | 2002 | 2001 | 2000 |
|----------------------------------|------|------|------|
|----------------------------------|------|------|------|

In thousands of dollars except per share amounts

The fair value of each option grant is estimated on the date of grant using a Black-Scholes option-pricing model with the following weighted-average assumptions used for grants in 2002, 2001 and 2000, respectively: dividend yields of 1.9%, 2.2% and 1.8%; expected volatility of 28%, 28% and 27%; risk-free interest rates of 4.7%, 5.0% and 6.7%; and expected lives of 6.4 years, 6.4 years and 6.5 years.

New and Proposed Accounting Pronouncements

In August 2001, the FASB issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 144, *Accounting for the Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets* (SFAS No. 144). SFAS No. 144 addresses financial accounting and reporting for the impairment or disposal of long-lived assets and is effective for financial statements issued for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2001. The adoption of SFAS No. 144 did not have a material effect on the Corporation's consolidated financial statements for 2002.

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In June 2002, the FASB issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 146, *Accounting for Costs Associated with Exit or Disposal Activities* (SFAS No. 146). The provisions of SFAS No. 146 are effective for exit or disposal activities that are initiated after December 31, 2002.

In November 2002, the FASB issued Interpretation No. 45, *Guarantor's Accounting and Disclosure Requirements for Guarantees, Including Indirect Guarantees of Indebtedness of Others, an interpretation of FASB Statements No. 5, 57, and 107 and rescission of FASB Interpretation No. 34*. This Interpretation elaborates on the disclosures to be made by a guarantor in its interim and annual financial statements about its obligations under certain guarantees that it has issued. It also clarifies that a guarantor is required to recognize, at the inception of a guarantee, a liability for the fair value of the obligation undertaken in issuing the guarantee. The Corporation has no significant guarantees which would need to be recognized and measured under the Interpretation and no significant guarantees which meet the disclosure requirements as of December 31, 2002.

In December 2002, the FASB issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 148, *Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation-Transition and Disclosure, an Amendment of FASB Statement No. 123* (SFAS No. 148). SFAS No. 148 amends FASB Statement No. 123, *Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation*, (SFAS No. 123) to provide alternative methods of transition for a voluntary change to the fair value method of accounting for stock-based employee compensation. In addition, SFAS No. 148 amends the disclosure requirements of SFAS No. 123 to require more prominent disclosures about the method of accounting for stock-based employee compensation and the effect of the method used on reported results in both annual and interim financial statements. Enhanced disclosures related to the accounting for stock-based employee compensation are provided in this Note 1 to the Consolidated Financial Statements under the heading Employee Stock Options.

In January 2003, the FASB issued Interpretation No. 46, *Consolidation of Variable Interest Entities, an interpretation of ARB No. 51*. This Interpretation addresses consolidation by business enterprises of special-purpose entities (SPEs) to which the usual condition for consolidation described in Accounting Research Bulletin No. 51, *Consolidated Financial Statements*, does not apply because the SPEs have no voting interests or otherwise are not subject to control through ownership of voting interests.

The Interpretation is effective for calendar year companies beginning in the third quarter of 2003 and it is reasonably possible that the Interpretation will require the consolidation of the Corporation's three off-balance sheet arrangements with SPTs for the leasing of certain warehouse and distribution facilities as described in Note 4, Commitments. The consolidation of these entities will result in an increase to property, plant and equipment of approximately \$120.0 million, with a corresponding increase to long-term debt and minority interest. The consolidation of these entities will also result in an increase to depreciation expense of approximately \$5.0 million on an annual basis.

2. ACQUISITIONS AND DIVESTITURES

In June 2002, the Corporation completed the sale of a group of the Corporation's non-chocolate confectionery candy brands to Farley's & Sathers Candy Company, Inc. (the sale of certain confectionery brands to Farley's & Sathers) for \$12.0 million in

cash as part of its business realignment initiatives. Included in the transaction were the *Heide*, *Juicyfruits*, *Wunderbeans* and *Amazin Fruit* trademarked confectionery brands, as well as the rights to sell *Chuckles* branded products, under license.

In July 2001, the Corporation's Brazilian subsidiary, Hershey do Brasil, acquired the chocolate and confectionery business of Visagis for \$17.1 million. This business had sales of approximately \$20.0 million in 2000. Included in the acquisition were the *IO-IO* brand of hazelnut creme items and the chocolate and confectionery products sold under the *Visconti* brand. Also included in the purchase were a manufacturing plant and confectionery equipment in Sao Roque, Brazil.

In December 2000, the Corporation completed the purchase of the intense and breath freshener mints and gum business of Nabisco, Inc. (Nabisco). The Corporation paid \$135.0 million to acquire the business, including *Ice Breakers* and *Breath Savers Cool Blasts* intense mints, *Breath Savers* mints,

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and *Ice Breakers*, *Carefree*, *Stick*Free*, *Bubble Yum* and *Fruit Stripe* gums. Also included in the purchase were manufacturing machinery and equipment and a gum-manufacturing plant in Las Piedras, Puerto Rico.

In accordance with the purchase method of accounting, the purchase prices of the acquisitions were allocated to the underlying assets and liabilities at the dates of acquisition based on their estimated respective fair values. Total liabilities assumed were \$31.0 million. Results subsequent to the dates of acquisition were included in the consolidated financial statements. Had the results of the acquisitions been included in the consolidated results for the periods prior to the acquisition dates, the effect would not have been material.

In September 2001, the Corporation completed the sale of the *Luden*'s throat drops business to Pharmacia Consumer Healthcare, a unit of Pharmacia Corporation. Included in the sale were the trademarks and manufacturing equipment for the throat drops business. Under a supply agreement with Pharmacia, the Corporation agreed to manufacture *Luden*'s throat drops for up to 19 months after the date of sale. Under a separate services agreement, the Corporation agreed to continue to sell, warehouse and distribute *Luden*'s throat drops through March 2002. In the third quarter of 2001, the Corporation received cash proceeds of \$59.9 million and recorded a gain of \$19.2 million before tax, \$1.1 million after tax, as a result of the transaction. A higher gain for tax purposes reflected the low tax basis of the intangible assets included in the sale, resulting in taxes on the gain of \$18.1 million. Net sales for the *Luden*'s throat drops business were \$8.9 million and \$20.7 million in 2001 and 2000, respectively.

3. BUSINESS REALIGNMENT INITIATIVES

In late October 2001, the Corporation's Board of Directors approved a plan to improve the efficiency and profitability of the Corporation's operations. The plan included asset management improvements, product line rationalization, supply chain efficiency improvements and a voluntary work force reduction program (collectively, the business realignment initiatives). The major components of the plan were completed during 2002. Remaining transactions primarily pertain to the sale of certain real estate associated with the closure of facilities, as discussed below, and possible pension settlement costs related to employee retirement decisions. The voluntary work force reduction program is also discussed in more detail below.

During 2002, charges to cost of sales and business realignment and asset impairments were recorded totaling \$34.0 million before tax. The total included a charge to cost of sales of \$6.4 million associated with the relocation of manufacturing equipment and a net business realignment and asset impairments charge of \$27.6 million. Components of the net \$27.6 million pre-tax charge included a \$28.8 million charge for pension settlement losses resulting from the voluntary work force reduction program (VWRP), a \$3.0 million charge for pension curtailment losses and special termination benefits resulting from manufacturing plant closures, a \$.1 million charge relating to involuntary termination benefits and a \$.1 million charge relating to the realignment of the domestic sales organization, partially offset by a \$4.4 million favorable adjustment reflecting higher than estimated proceeds from the sale of certain assets.

During the fourth quarter of 2001, charges to cost of sales and business realignment and asset impairments were recorded totaling \$278.4 million before tax. The total included a charge to cost of sales of \$50.1 million associated with raw material inventory reductions and a business realignment and asset impairments charge of \$228.3 million. Components of the \$228.3 million pre-tax charge included \$175.2 million for business realignment charges and \$53.1 million for asset impairment charges. The \$175.2 million for business realignment charges included \$139.8 million for enhanced pension and other post-retirement benefits associated with the VWRP and \$35.4 million which consisted of \$5.0 million for involuntary termination benefits, \$8.9 million for VWRP related voluntary separation benefits and administrative expenses, and \$21.5 million for other costs associated with the business realignment initiatives described in more detail below. A liability for

business realignment initiatives of \$35.4 million was included in accrued liabilities as of December 31, 2001. The \$53.1 million for asset impairment charges included \$45.3 million for fixed

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asset impairments and \$7.8 million for goodwill impairment. The fixed asset impairments included \$.3 million for land, \$9.1 million for buildings and \$35.9 million for machinery and equipment. In determining the fixed asset and goodwill impairment losses, fair value was estimated based on the expected sales proceeds.

These initiatives are expected to generate \$75 million to \$80 million of annual savings when fully implemented and contributed savings of approximately \$38.0 million in 2002. As of December 31, 2002, there have been no significant changes to the estimated savings for the business realignment initiatives. Total costs associated with the business realignment initiatives were \$312.4 million compared to the \$310.0 million announced in January 2002. The increased costs related primarily to higher pension settlement losses resulting from the VWRP which reflected differences in actuarial assumptions, returns on pension plan assets and employee retirement decisions.

Asset Management Improvements

There were no additional 2002 business realignment and asset impairments charges recorded relating to asset management improvements. During 2002, cash payments totaling \$2.7 million for equipment removal relating to outsourcing the manufacture of certain ingredients were recorded against the liability for business realignment initiatives. The 2001 charge to cost of sales of \$50.1 million was a result of decisions to outsource the manufacture of certain ingredients and to significantly reduce the inventory levels of certain raw materials, primarily cocoa beans and cocoa butter. Also included in the charge was the impact of a decision to reduce raw material inventory levels for almonds and peanuts. The Corporation sold raw material inventories and delayed raw material deliveries during the fourth quarter of 2001. The 2001 pre-tax charge of \$5.3 million, which was a component of the business realignment and asset impairments charge, included \$2.7 million for equipment removal and \$2.6 million relating to asset impairments.

Product Line Rationalization

During 2002, a pre-tax charge of \$.1 million was recorded, as incurred, resulting in an increase to the liability for business realignment initiatives relating to the realignment of the Corporation's sales organizations. In addition, a pre-tax charge of \$.7 million relating to pension curtailment losses and special termination benefits resulting from the closure of a manufacturing plant, as described below, was credited to pension benefit liabilities. Also during 2002, cash payments totaling \$6.4 million, primarily for maintenance of properties prior to sale, severance and broker termination fees associated with exiting certain businesses were recorded against the liability for business realignment initiatives. Employee terminations were primarily related to the sale of certain confectionery brands to Farley's & Sathers that resulted in the closure of a manufacturing facility in New Brunswick, New Jersey which was being held for sale as of December 31, 2002. During 2002, 142 employees were terminated and involuntary employee termination benefits paid were approximately \$1.3 million. In addition, non-cash write-offs of \$8.5 million associated with exiting the Corporation's aseptically packaged drink business and \$.7 million for inventory were also recorded against the liability for business realignment initiatives. Proceeds of \$12.0 million for the sale of certain confectionery brands to Farley's & Sathers exceeded the 2001 estimates which resulted in a \$4.4 million favorable adjustment to the 2001 asset impairments charge for goodwill. Net sales associated with businesses sold or exited as part of the business realignment initiatives were approximately \$11.6 million, \$34.2 million and \$38.3 million during 2002, 2001 and 2000 respectively.

The 2001 pre-tax charge of \$28.3 million, which was a component of the business realignment and asset impairments charge, included \$15.5 million relating to the sale or exit of certain businesses, the discontinuance of certain non-chocolate confectionery products and the realignment of the Corporation's domestic and international sales organizations, \$7.8 million relating to goodwill impairment and \$5.0 million relating to fixed asset impairments.

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Supply Chain Efficiency Improvements

During 2002, the manufacturing plant and facility closures occurred as planned. The manufacturing facility in Denver, Colorado was closed and the manufacturing equipment and machinery were sold or relocated for production at a contract

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manufacturer or other manufacturing plants. The Denver, Colorado plant had principally manufactured *Jolly Rancher* hard candy. The manufacturing facility in Pennsburg, Pennsylvania was closed and the production of *Pot of Gold* chocolates was moved to another manufacturing plant. A small manufacturing and packaging facility located in Palmyra, Pennsylvania, as well as a distribution center and certain minor facilities located in Oakdale, California were also closed. The Denver, Colorado facility is being held for sale and the Pennsburg, Pennsylvania facility is idle and is being held for possible future use.

During 2002, a pre-tax charge of \$.1 million was credited to the liability for business realignment initiatives and a pre-tax charge of \$2.3 million relating to pension curtailment losses and special termination benefits was credited to pension benefit liabilities. These charges resulted from the plant closures described above. Also during 2002, cash payments totaling \$7.7 million relating to the plant and facility closures and non-cash write-offs of \$.7 million for spare parts and supplies were recorded against the liability for business realignment initiatives. The cash payments included \$3.8 million for the payment of involuntary employee termination benefits to 614 terminated employees associated with the plant and facility closures.

The 2001 pre-tax charge of \$46.0 million, which was a component of the business realignment and asset impairments charge, included \$8.3 million relating to the closure of the facilities described above and \$37.7 million for fixed asset impairments.

Voluntary Work Force Reduction Program

During 2002, a net pre-tax charge of \$28.8 million was credited to pension benefit liabilities relating to pension settlement costs associated with departing employees electing a lump sum payment of their pension benefit under the early retirement program of the VWRP. Also during 2002, cash payments totaling \$8.9 million relating to the enhanced mutual separation program of the VWRP and administrative expenses were recorded against the liability for business realignment initiatives. Payments of pension and certain supplemental benefits were made from the assets of the Corporation's pension plan which includes primarily salaried employees. During 2002, a reduction of approximately 500 employees resulted from the VWRP.

The VWRP was offered to certain eligible employees in the United States, Canada and Puerto Rico in October 2001 in order to reduce staffing levels and improve profitability. The VWRP consisted of an early retirement program and an enhanced mutual separation program. The early retirement program was offered to approximately 1,200 eligible salaried employees who were born prior to January 1, 1954, and were employed by the Corporation prior to January 1, 1999. The early retirement program provided enhanced pension, post-retirement and certain supplemental benefits. The enhanced mutual separation program provided increased severance and temporary medical benefits. The 2001 pre-tax charge of \$148.7 million, which was a component of the business realignment and asset impairments charge, consisted of \$139.8 million for pension and other post-retirement special termination benefits and curtailment losses associated with the early retirement program and \$8.9 million associated with the VWRP enhanced mutual separation program and administrative expenses.

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The following table summarizes the charges for certain business realignment initiatives in the fourth quarter of 2001 and the related activities completed through December 31, 2002:

| <u>Accrued Liabilities</u> | <u>Balance 12/31/01</u> | <u>2002 Utilization</u> | <u>New charges during 2002</u> | <u>Balance 12/31/02</u> |
|--|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| In thousands of dollars | | | | |
| Asset management improvements | \$ 2,700 | \$ (2,700) | \$ | \$ |
| Product line rationalization | 15,529 | (15,644) | 115 | |
| Supply chain efficiency improvements | 8,300 | (8,400) | 100 | |
| Voluntary work force reduction program | 8,860 | (8,860) | | |
| Total | \$ 35,389 | \$(35,604) | \$ 215 | \$ |

New charges during 2002 related to realignment of the Corporation's sales organizations and termination benefits. Utilization recorded against the liability in 2002 reflected cash payments totaling \$25.7 million and non-cash write-offs of \$9.9 million associated primarily with exiting certain businesses. The cash payments related primarily to severance payments associated with the enhanced mutual separation program and plant closures, outsourcing the manufacture of certain ingredients, VWRP administrative expenses, the realignment of the Corporation's sales organizations and other expenses associated with exiting certain businesses and maintaining properties prior to sale.

4. COMMITMENTS

Rent expense was \$34.6 million, \$37.3 million and \$40.8 million for 2002, 2001 and 2000, respectively. Rent expense pertains to all operating leases, which were principally related to certain administrative buildings, warehouse and distribution facilities and transportation equipment.

The Corporation has entered into certain obligations for the purchase of raw materials. Purchase obligations primarily reflect forward contracts for the purchase of raw materials from third-party brokers and dealers to minimize the effect of future price fluctuations. Total obligations for each year are comprised of fixed price contracts for the purchase of commodities and unpriced contracts which have been valued using market prices as of December 31, 2002. The cost of commodities associated with the unpriced contracts is variable as market prices change over future periods. However, the variability of such costs is mitigated to the extent of the Corporation's futures price cover for those periods. Accordingly, increases or decreases in market prices will be offset by gains or losses on commodity futures contracts to the extent that the unpriced contracts are hedged as of December 31, 2002 and in future periods. These obligations are satisfied by taking delivery of the specific commodities for use in the manufacture of finished goods. For each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2002, such obligations were fully satisfied by taking delivery of and making payment for the specific commodities.

The Corporation has entered into three off-balance sheet arrangements for the leasing of certain warehouse and distribution facilities. These off-balance sheet arrangements enabled the Corporation to lease these facilities under more favorable terms than other leasing alternatives. The operating lease arrangements are with special purpose trusts (SPTs) whereby the Corporation leases warehouse and distribution facilities in Redlands, California; Atlanta, Georgia; and Hershey, Pennsylvania, as discussed below. The SPTs were formed to facilitate the acquisition and subsequent leasing of the facilities to the Corporation. The SPTs financed the acquisition of the facilities by issuing notes and equity certificates to independent third-party financial institutions. The independent third-party financial institution which holds the equity certificates is the owner of the SPTs. The owner of the SPTs has made substantive residual equity capital investments in excess of 3% which will be at risk during the entire term of each lease. Accordingly, the Corporation is not permitted to consolidate the SPTs because all of the conditions for consolidation have not been met. Aside from the residual guarantees and instrument guarantees associated with the individual leasing arrangements, as discussed below, the Corporation has provided no other guarantees or capitalization of these entities. The obligations in connection with these leases have not been

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collateralized by the Corporation. The Corporation has no obligations with respect to refinancing of the lessor's debt, would incur no significant penalties which would result in the reasonable assurance of continuation of the leases and has no significant guarantees in addition to the residual and instrument guarantees, discussed below. There are no other material commitments or contingent liabilities associated with the leasing arrangements. The Corporation's transactions with the SPTs are limited to the operating lease agreements and the associated rent expense is included in cost of sales in the Consolidated Statements of Income.

The leases include substantial residual guarantees by the Corporation for a significant amount of the financing and options to purchase the facilities at original cost. Pursuant to instrument guarantees, in the event of a default under the lease agreements, the Corporation guaranteed to the note holders and certificate holders payment in an amount equal to all sums then due under the leases.

In December 2000, the Corporation entered into an operating lease agreement with the owner of the warehouse and distribution facility in Redlands, California. The lease term was approximately ten years, with occupancy to begin upon completion of the facility. The lease agreement contained an option for the Corporation to purchase the facility. In January 2002, the Corporation assigned its right to purchase the facility to an SPT that in turn purchased the completed facility and leased it to the Corporation under a new operating lease agreement. The lease term is five years, with up to four renewal periods of five years each with the consent of the lessor. The cost incurred by the SPT to acquire the facility, including land, was \$40.1 million.

In October 2000, the Corporation entered into an operating lease agreement with an SPT for the leasing of a warehouse and distribution facility near Atlanta, Georgia. The lease term is five years, with up to four renewal periods of five years each with the consent of the lessor. The cost incurred by the SPT to acquire the facility, including land, was \$18.2 million.

In July 1999, the Corporation entered into an operating lease agreement with an SPT for the construction and leasing of a warehouse and distribution facility located on land owned by the Corporation near Hershey, Pennsylvania. Under the agreement, the lessor paid construction costs totaling \$61.7 million. The lease term is six years, including the one-year construction period, with up to four renewal periods of five years each with the consent of the lessor.

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There are no penalties or other disincentives under the lease agreements if the Corporation decides not to renew any of the three leases. The terms for each renewal period under each of the three lease arrangements are identical to the initial terms and do not represent bargain lease terms.

If the Corporation were to exercise its options to purchase the three facilities at original cost at the end of the respective initial lease terms, the Corporation could purchase the facilities for a total of approximately \$120.0 million, \$79.9 million for the Pennsylvania and Georgia facilities in 2005, and \$40.1 million for the California facility in 2007. If the Corporation chooses not to renew the leases or purchase the assets at the end of the lease terms, the Corporation is obligated under the residual guarantees for approximately \$103.2 million in total for the three leases. Additionally, the Corporation is obligated to re-market each property on the lessor's behalf and, upon sale, distribute a portion of the proceeds to the note holders and certificate holders up to an amount equal to the remaining debt and equity certificates and to pay closing costs. If the Corporation chooses not to renew or purchase the assets at the end of the lease terms, the Corporation does not anticipate a material disruption to operations, since such facilities are not unique, facilities with similar racking and storage capabilities are available in each of the areas where the facilities are located, there are no significant leasehold improvements that would be impaired, there would be no adverse tax consequences, the financing of replacement facilities would not be material to the Corporation's cash flows and costs related to relocation would not be significant to income.

The facility located near Hershey, Pennsylvania was constructed on land owned by the Corporation. The Corporation entered into a ground lease with the lessor, an SPT. The initial term of the ground lease extends to the date that is the later of (i) the date the facility lease is no longer in effect, or (ii) the date when the Corporation satisfies the residual guarantee associated with the lease. An

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additional term for the ground lease begins upon the end of the initial ground lease term and ends upon the later of the date all sums required to be paid under the lease agreement are paid in full and the 75th anniversary of the ground lease commencement date. If the Corporation chooses not to renew the building lease or purchase the building, it must re-market the building on the lessor's behalf subject to the ground lease, which will continue in force until the earlier of the date all sums required to be paid under the lease agreement are paid in full and the 75th anniversary of the ground lease inception date. The lease of the warehouse and distribution facility does not include any provisions which would require the Corporation to sell the land to the SPT.

In January 2003, the FASB issued Interpretation No. 46, *Consolidation of Variable Interest Entities, an interpretation of ARB No. 51*, as discussed in Note 1 under the heading New and Proposed Accounting Pronouncements. The Interpretation is effective for calendar year companies beginning in the third quarter of 2003 and it is reasonably possible that the Interpretation will require the consolidation of the Corporation's three off-balance sheet arrangements with SPTs for the leasing of certain warehouse and distribution facilities.

Future minimum rental payments under non-cancelable operating leases with a remaining term in excess of one year as of December 31, 2002, totaled \$95.8 million (2003 \$17.6 million; 2004 \$17.3 million; 2005 \$17.2 million; 2006 \$14.6 million; 2007 \$10.7 million; 2008 and beyond \$18.4 million).

As of December 31, 2002, the Corporation had entered into purchase agreements with various suppliers. Subject to the Corporation's quality standards being met, the purchase obligations covered by these agreements aggregated approximately \$806.3 million in 2003, \$481.9 million in 2004, \$134.6 million in 2005, \$6.0 million in 2006, \$6.0 million in 2007 and \$8.2 million in 2008 and beyond.

5. GOODWILL AND OTHER INTANGIBLE ASSETS

A reconciliation of reported net income to net income adjusted to reflect the impact of the discontinuance of the amortization of goodwill and other intangible assets for the years ended December 31, 2001 and 2000 is as follows:

| For the years ended December 31, | 2002 | 2001 | 2000 |
|----------------------------------|------|------|------|
|----------------------------------|------|------|------|

In thousands of dollars except per share amounts

Accumulated amortization of intangible assets resulting from business acquisitions was \$129.2 million and \$131.0 million as of December 31, 2002 and 2001, respectively.

6. DERIVATIVE INSTRUMENTS AND HEDGING ACTIVITIES

The Corporation adopted SFAS No. 133, as amended, as of January 1, 2001. SFAS No. 133, as amended, provides that the effective portion of the gain or loss on a derivative instrument designated and qualifying

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as a cash flow hedging instrument be reported as a component of other comprehensive income and be reclassified into earnings in the same period or periods during which the transaction affects earnings. The remaining gain or loss on the derivative instrument, if any, must be recognized currently in earnings. All derivative instruments currently utilized by the Corporation are designated as cash flow hedges.

Objectives, Strategies and Accounting Policies Associated with Derivative Instruments

The Corporation utilizes certain derivative instruments, from time to time, including interest rate swaps, foreign currency forward exchange contracts and commodities futures contracts, to manage variability in cash flows associated with interest rate, currency exchange rate and commodity market price risk exposures. The interest rate swaps and foreign currency contracts are entered into for periods consistent with related underlying exposures and do not constitute positions independent of those exposures. Commodities futures contracts are entered into for varying periods and are intended to be and are effective as hedges of market price risks associated with anticipated raw material purchases, energy requirements and transportation costs. If it is probable that hedged forecasted transactions will not occur either by the end of the originally specified time period or within an additional two-month period of time, derivative gains and losses reported in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) on the Consolidated Balance Sheets are immediately reclassified into earnings. Gains and losses on terminated derivatives designated as hedges are accounted for as part of the originally hedged transaction. Gains and losses on derivatives designated as hedges of items that mature or are sold or terminated, are recognized in income in the same period as the originally hedged transaction was anticipated to affect earnings. The Corporation utilizes derivative instruments as cash flow hedges and does not hold or issue derivative instruments for trading purposes. In entering into these contracts, the Corporation has assumed the risk that might arise from the possible inability of counterparties to meet the terms of their contracts. The Corporation does not expect any significant losses as a result of counterparty defaults.

Interest Rate Swaps

In order to minimize its financing costs and to manage interest rate exposure, the Corporation, from time to time, enters into interest rate swap agreements. In February 2001, the Corporation entered into interest rate swap agreements that effectively converted variable-interest-rate rental payments on certain operating leases from a variable to a fixed rate. Rental payments on operating leases associated with the financing of construction of a warehouse and distribution facility near Hershey, Pennsylvania for \$61.7 million and the financing of the purchase of a warehouse and distribution facility near Atlanta, Georgia for \$18.2 million are variable based on the London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR). Such variable operating lease rental payments are forecasted transactions as defined by SFAS No. 133, as amended. The interest rate swap agreements effectively converted the variable-interest-rate rental payments on the operating leases from LIBOR to a fixed rate of 6.1%. Future changes in LIBOR are offset by changes in the value of the interest rate swap agreements, resulting in expense recognized in cost of sales at the fixed rate of 6.1%. The interest rate swap agreements qualify as cash flow hedges and the notional amounts, interest rates and terms of the swap agreements are consistent with the underlying operating lease agreements they are intended to hedge and, therefore, there is no hedge ineffectiveness. Gains and losses on the interest rate swap agreements are included in other comprehensive income and are recognized in cost of sales in the same period as the hedged rental payments affect earnings.

The fair value of the interest rate swap agreements was a liability of \$7.1 million and \$2.7 million as of December 31, 2002 and 2001, respectively, and was determined based upon the quoted market price for the same or similar financial instruments. The fair value of interest rate swap agreements was included on the Consolidated Balance Sheets as other long-term liabilities, with the offset reflected in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss), net of income taxes. Cash flows from interest rate swap agreements are classified as net cash provided from operating activities on the Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows. The Corporation's risk related to the interest rate swap agreements is limited to the cost of replacing the agreements at prevailing market rates.

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Foreign Exchange Forward Contracts

The Corporation enters into foreign exchange forward contracts to hedge transactions primarily related to firm commitments to purchase equipment, certain raw materials and finished goods denominated in foreign currencies, and to hedge payment of intercompany transactions with its non-domestic subsidiaries. These contracts reduce currency risk from exchange rate movements. Foreign currency price risks are hedged generally for periods from 3 to 24 months.

Foreign exchange forward contracts are intended to be and are effective as hedges of firm, identifiable, foreign currency commitments. Since there is a direct relationship between the foreign currency derivatives and the foreign currency denomination of the transactions, foreign currency derivatives are highly effective in hedging cash flows related to transactions denominated in the corresponding foreign currencies. These contracts meet the criteria for cash flow hedge accounting treatment and, accordingly, gains and losses are included in other comprehensive income and are recognized in cost of sales or selling, marketing and administrative expense in the same period that the hedged items affect earnings. In entering into these contracts the Corporation has assumed the risk which might arise from the possible inability of counterparties to meet the terms of their contracts. The Corporation does not expect any significant losses as a result of counterparty defaults.

The fair value of foreign exchange forward contracts was estimated by obtaining quotes for future contracts with similar terms, adjusted where necessary for maturity differences. The fair value of foreign exchange forward contracts was an asset of \$3.1 million and a liability of \$.3 million as of December 31, 2002 and 2001, respectively, included on the Consolidated Balance Sheets as other current assets and accrued liabilities, respectively, with the offsets reflected in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss), net of income taxes. Cash flows from foreign exchange forward contracts designated as hedges of foreign currency price risks associated with the purchase of equipment are classified as net cash flows (used by) provided from investing activities on the Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows. Cash flows from other foreign exchange forward contracts are classified as net cash provided from operating activities.

Commodities Futures Contracts

In connection with the purchasing of cocoa, sugar, corn sweeteners, natural gas, fuel oil and certain dairy products for anticipated manufacturing requirements and to hedge transportation costs, the Corporation enters into commodities futures contracts as deemed appropriate to reduce the effect of price fluctuations. Commodity price risks are hedged generally for periods from 3 to 24 months. Commodities futures contracts meet the hedge criteria and are accounted for as cash flow hedges. Accordingly, gains and losses are included in other comprehensive income and are recognized ratably in cost of sales in the same period that the hedged raw material manufacturing requirements are recorded in cost of sales.

In order to qualify as a hedge of commodity price risk, it must be demonstrated that the changes in fair value of the commodities futures contracts are highly effective in hedging price risks associated with commodity purchases for manufacturing requirements and with transportation costs. The assessment of hedge effectiveness for commodities futures is performed on a quarterly basis by calculating the change in switch values relative to open commodities futures contracts being held and the number of futures contracts needed to price raw material purchases for anticipated manufacturing requirements and to hedge transportation costs. Effectiveness is also monitored by tracking changes in basis differentials as discussed below. The prices of commodities futures contracts reflect delivery to the same locations where the Corporation takes delivery of the physical commodities and, therefore, there is no ineffectiveness resulting from differences in location between the derivative and the hedged item. Commodities futures contracts have been deemed to be highly effective in hedging price risks associated with corresponding raw material purchases for manufacturing requirements and transportation costs.

Because of the rollover strategy used for commodities futures contracts, which is required by futures market conditions, some ineffectiveness may result in hedging forecasted manufacturing

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requirements as futures contracts are switched from nearby contract positions to contract positions which are required to fix the price of raw material purchases for manufacturing requirements. Hedge ineffectiveness may also result from variability in basis differentials associated with the purchase of raw materials for manufacturing requirements. Hedge ineffectiveness is measured on a quarterly basis and the ineffective portion of gains or losses on commodities futures is recorded currently in cost of sales in accordance with SFAS No. 133, as amended.

Exchange traded futures contracts are used to fix the price of physical forward purchase contracts. Cash transfers reflecting changes in the value of futures contracts (unrealized gains and losses) are made on a daily basis and are included in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss), net of income taxes, on the Consolidated Balance Sheets. Such cash transfers

will be offset by higher or lower cash requirements for payment of invoice prices of raw materials, energy requirements and transportation costs in the future. Cash flows from commodities futures contracts are classified as net cash provided from operating activities on the Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows. Futures contracts being held in excess of the amount required to fix the price of unpriced physical forward contracts are effective as hedges of anticipated manufacturing requirements for each commodity. Physical commodity forward purchase contracts meet the SFAS No. 133 definition of normal purchases and sales and, therefore, are not considered derivative instruments.

Net after-tax gains on cash flow hedging derivatives reflected in comprehensive income were \$106.7 million for 2002. Net after-tax losses on cash flow hedging derivatives reflected in comprehensive income were \$7.8 million for 2001. Net gains and losses on cash flow hedging derivatives were primarily associated with commodities futures contracts. Reclassification adjustments from accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) to income, for gains or losses on cash flow hedging derivatives, were reflected in cost of sales. Reclassification of gains of \$17.9 million for 2002 and losses of \$19.3 million for 2001 were associated with commodities futures contracts. Gains on commodities futures contracts recognized in cost of sales as a result of hedge ineffectiveness were approximately \$1.5 million and \$1.7 million before tax for the years ended December 31, 2002 and 2001, respectively. No gains or losses on cash flow hedging derivatives were reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) into income as a result of the discontinuance of a hedge because it became probable that a hedged forecasted transaction would not occur. There were no components of gains or losses on cash flow hedging derivatives that were recognized in income because such components were excluded from the assessment of hedge effectiveness. The amount of net gains on cash flow hedging derivatives, including foreign exchange forward contracts, interest rate swap agreements and commodities futures contracts, expected to be reclassified into earnings in the next twelve months was approximately \$54.5 million and \$6.2 million after tax as of December 31, 2002 and 2001, respectively, which were principally associated with commodities futures contracts.

7. COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

Comprehensive income consisted of the following:

| For the years ended December 31, | 2002 | 2001 | 2000 |
|----------------------------------|------|------|------|
| In thousands of dollars | | | |

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Comprehensive income is included on the Consolidated Statements of Stockholders' Equity. The components of accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) as shown on the Consolidated Balance Sheets are as follows:

| Foreign Currency Translation Adjustments | Minimum Pension Liability Adjustments | Gains (Losses) on Cash Flow Hedging Derivatives | Reclassification Adjustments | Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss) |
|---|--|--|---------------------------------|--|
| In thousands of dollars | | | | |

8. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The carrying amounts of financial instruments including cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable, accounts payable and short-term debt approximated fair value as of December 31, 2002 and 2001, because of the relatively short maturity of these instruments. The carrying value of long-term debt, including the current portion, was \$868.8 million as of December 31, 2002, compared to a fair value of \$1,005.9 million based on quoted market prices for the same or similar debt issues. The carrying value of long-term debt, including the current portion, was \$877.9 million as of December 31, 2001, compared to a fair value of \$957.8 million.

As of December 31, 2002, the Corporation had foreign exchange forward contracts maturing in 2003 and 2004 to purchase \$45.1 million in foreign currency, primarily British sterling and euros, and to sell \$17.2 million in foreign currency, primarily Japanese yen, at contracted forward rates.

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As of December 31, 2001, the Corporation had foreign exchange forward contracts maturing in 2002 and 2003 to purchase \$24.3 million in foreign currency, primarily British sterling and euros, and to sell \$12.2 million in foreign currency, primarily Japanese yen, at contracted forward rates.

The fair value of foreign exchange forward contracts is estimated by obtaining quotes for future contracts with similar terms, adjusted where necessary for maturity differences. As of December 31, 2002, the fair value of foreign exchange forward contracts was an asset of \$3.1 million. As of December 31, 2001, the fair value of foreign exchange forward contracts was a liability of \$.3 million. The Corporation does not hold or issue financial instruments for trading purposes.

In order to minimize its financing costs and to manage interest rate exposure, the Corporation, from time to time, enters into interest rate swap agreements. In February 2001, the Corporation entered into interest rate swap agreements that effectively converted variable-interest-rate rental payments on certain operating leases from a variable to a fixed rate of 6.1%. The fair value of interest rate swap agreements was a liability of \$7.1 million and \$2.7 million as of December 31, 2002 and 2001, respectively.

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9. INTEREST EXPENSE

Interest expense, net consisted of the following:

| For the years ended December 31, | 2002 | 2001 | 2000 |
|----------------------------------|------|------|------|
|----------------------------------|------|------|------|

In thousands of dollars

10. SHORT-TERM DEBT

Generally, the Corporation's short-term borrowings are in the form of commercial paper or bank loans with an original maturity of three months or less. As of December 31, 2002, the Corporation maintained short-term and long-term committed credit facilities with a syndicate of banks in the amount of \$400 million which could be borrowed directly or used to support the issuance of commercial paper. The Corporation may increase the credit facilities to \$1.0 billion with the concurrence of the banks. In November 2002, the short-term credit facility agreement was renewed with a credit limit of \$200 million expiring in November 2003. The long-term committed credit facility agreement with a credit limit of \$200 million will expire in November 2006. The credit facilities may be used to fund general corporate requirements, to support commercial paper borrowings and, in certain instances, to finance future business acquisitions.

The Corporation also maintains lines of credit with domestic and international commercial banks, under which it could borrow in various currencies up to approximately \$21.0 million and \$21.7 million as of December 31, 2002 and 2001, respectively, at the lending banks' prime commercial interest rates or lower.

The Corporation had short-term foreign bank loans against its credit facilities and lines of credit of \$11.1 million and \$7.0 million as of December 31, 2002 and 2001, respectively. The amount of the Corporation's short-term borrowings peaked in December 2002 at \$11.1 million. The weighted average interest rates on short-term borrowings outstanding as of December 31, 2002 and 2001, were 0.3% and 0.2%, respectively.

The credit facilities and lines of credit were supported by commitment fee arrangements. The average fee during 2002 was less than .2% per annum of the commitment. The Corporation's credit facility agreements contain a financial covenant which requires that a specified income to interest ratio be maintained. These agreements are also subject to other representations and covenants which do not materially restrict the Corporation's activities. The Corporation is in compliance with all covenants included in the credit facility agreements. There were no significant compensating balance agreements which legally restricted these funds.

As a result of maintaining a consolidated cash management system, the Corporation maintains overdraft positions in certain accounts at several banks. The Corporation has the contractual right of offset for the accounts with overdrafts. Such overdrafts, which were reflected as a reduction to cash and cash equivalents, were \$24.8 million and \$26.5 million as of December 31, 2002 and 2001, respectively.

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11. LONG-TERM DEBT

Long-term debt consisted of the following:

| December 31, | 2002 | 2001 |
|--------------|------|------|
|--------------|------|------|

In thousands of dollars

Aggregate annual maturities during the next five years are: 2003, \$17.0 million; 2004, \$.6 million; 2005, \$201.6 million; 2006, \$.1 million; and 2007, \$150.1 million. The Corporation's debt is principally unsecured and of equal priority. None of the debt is convertible into stock of the Corporation. The Corporation is in compliance with all covenants included in the related debt agreements.

12. INCOME TAXES

Income before income taxes was as follows:

| For the years ended December 31, | 2002 | 2001 | 2000 |
|----------------------------------|------|------|------|
|----------------------------------|------|------|------|

In thousands of dollars

The provision for income taxes was as follows:

| For the years ended December 31, | 2002 | 2001 | 2000 |
|----------------------------------|------|------|------|
|----------------------------------|------|------|------|

In thousands of dollars

Deferred taxes reflect temporary differences between tax reporting and financial statement reporting in the recognition of revenue and expense. The tax effects of the significant temporary differences which comprised the deferred tax assets and liabilities were as follows:

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| December 31, | 2002 | 2001 |
|--------------|------|------|
|--------------|------|------|

In thousands of dollars

Additional information on income tax benefits and expenses related to the components of accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) is provided in Note 7, Comprehensive Income.

The following table reconciles the Federal statutory income tax rate with the Corporation's effective income tax rate:

| For the years ended December 31, | 2002 | 2001 | 2000 |
|----------------------------------|------|------|------|
|----------------------------------|------|------|------|

Included with the purchase of the Nabisco gum and mint business in December 2000, was a U.S. Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 936 company with a subsidiary operating in Las Piedras, Puerto Rico. The operating income of this subsidiary is subject to a lower income tax rate in both the United States and Puerto Rico. The U.S. IRC Section 936 incentive is scheduled to expire on December 31, 2005.

The gain on the sale of the *Luden's* throat drops business in 2001 primarily reflected the lower tax basis of the intangible assets included in the sale, resulting in a higher effective income tax rate.

Effective October 1, 2001, the Corporation negotiated a settlement with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) of Notices of Proposed Deficiency associated with its Corporate Owned Life Insurance (COLI) program. The resulting Closing Agreement with the IRS limited the COLI interest expense deductions for all applicable tax years and resulted in the surrender of all

insurance policies, thereby ending the COLI program. The settlement reflected the complete resolution of all federal and state tax aspects of the program.

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13. PENSION AND OTHER POST-RETIREMENT BENEFIT PLANS

The Corporation's policy is to fund domestic pension liabilities in accordance with the minimum and maximum limits imposed by the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 and Federal income tax laws, respectively. Non-domestic pension liabilities are funded in accordance with applicable local laws and regulations. Plan assets are invested in a broadly diversified portfolio consisting primarily of domestic and international common stocks and fixed income securities. Other benefits include health care and life insurance provided by the Corporation under two post-retirement benefit plans.

A summary of the changes in benefit obligations and plan assets as of December 31, 2002 and 2001 is presented below:

| December 31, | Pension Benefits | | Other Benefits | |
|--------------|------------------|------|----------------|------|
| | 2002 | 2001 | 2002 | 2001 |

In thousands of dollars

For measurement purposes, an 8% annual rate of increase in the per capita cost of covered health care benefits was assumed for 2003 and future years.

Contributions totaling \$308.1 million were made to the Corporation's pension plans during 2002 primarily to improve the funded status as a result of the poor market performance of pension plan

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assets during the year. In February 2001, the Corporation made a \$75.0 million contribution to its domestic pension plans to improve the funded status. In December 2001, the Corporation made a \$95.0 million contribution to one of its domestic pension plans to fund anticipated payments related to the early retirement program.

The unrecognized net actuarial loss for pension benefits in 2002 and 2001 was due primarily to the actual return on plan assets being less than the expected return and reduced discount rate assumptions.

As of December 31, 2002, for pension plans with accumulated benefit obligations in excess of plan assets, the related projected benefit obligation, accumulated benefit obligation and the fair value of plan assets were \$87.7 million, \$73.2 million and \$35.0 million, respectively. As of December 31, 2001, for pension plans with accumulated benefit obligations in excess of plan assets, the related projected benefit obligation, accumulated benefit obligation and the fair value of plan assets were \$794.3 million, \$750.9 million and \$657.3 million, respectively. Included in the projected benefit obligation and accumulated benefit obligation amounts as of December 31, 2002, were \$29.3 million and \$27.1 million, respectively, for an unfunded supplemental executive retirement program, which is a non-qualified plan that provides certain senior executives defined pension benefits based on their age, service and total compensation. Included in the projected benefit obligation and accumulated benefit obligation amounts as of December 31, 2001, were \$41.6 million and \$40.4 million, respectively, primarily associated with the supplemental executive retirement program.

A minimum pension liability adjustment is required when the actuarial present value of accumulated plan benefits exceeds plan assets and accrued pension liabilities. In 2002, the reversal of a minimum liability adjustment of \$58.3 million, net of deferred tax expense of \$23.4 million, was recorded as a component of other comprehensive income (loss) and reported in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) as a component of stockholders' equity. In 2001, a minimum liability adjustment of \$57.1 million, net of a deferred tax benefit of \$22.9 million, was recorded as a component of other comprehensive income (loss) and reported in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) as a component of stockholders' equity.

A summary of the components of net periodic benefits cost for the years ended December 31, 2002, 2001 and 2000 is presented below:

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| For the years ended December 31, | Pension Benefits | | | Other Benefits | | |
|---|------------------|------------|-----------|----------------|-----------|-----------|
| | 2002 | 2001 | 2000 | 2002 | 2001 | 2000 |
| In thousands of dollars | | | | | | |
| Components of net periodic benefits cost | | | | | | |
| Service cost | \$ 31,890 | \$ 30,093 | \$ 27,961 | \$ 3,157 | \$ 3,434 | \$ 3,184 |
| Interest cost | 50,372 | 48,239 | 45,710 | 19,674 | 17,829 | 14,056 |
| Expected return on plan assets | (60,443) | (61,791) | (60,143) | | | |
| Amortization of prior service cost | 3,906 | 3,891 | 3,783 | (1,858) | (2,168) | (2,165) |
| Amortization of unrecognized transition balance | (326) | (27) | (286) | | | |
| Recognized net actuarial loss (gain) | 4,371 | | (2,670) | 2,774 | 2,761 | |
| Other | | | | | (80) | (41) |
| Corporate sponsored plans | 29,770 | 20,405 | 14,355 | 23,747 | 21,776 | 15,034 |
| Multi-employer plans | 483 | 615 | 577 | | | |
| Administrative expenses | 423 | 297 | 421 | | | |
| Net periodic benefits cost | 30,676 | 21,317 | 15,353 | 23,747 | 21,776 | 15,034 |
| Special termination benefits | 809 | 106,273 | | | 15,451 | |
| Curtailement loss | 2,116 | 2,802 | | | 15,366 | |
| Settlement loss | 30,118 | | | | | |
| Total amount reflected in earnings | \$ 63,719 | \$ 130,392 | \$ 15,353 | \$ 23,747 | \$ 52,593 | \$ 15,034 |

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The Corporation has two post-retirement benefit plans. The health care plan is contributory, with participants' contributions adjusted annually, and the life insurance plan is non-contributory.

In conjunction with the business realignment initiatives announced on October 24, 2001, the Corporation offered an early retirement program to approximately 10% of its work force in the fourth quarter of 2001. The early retirement program gave eligible salaried employees an opportunity to retire with enhanced benefits related to the Corporation's pension and other post-retirement benefit plans. In general, eligible employees were born before January 1, 1954, and were hired before January 1, 1999. Pension benefits were enhanced by adding five additional years of age and service to eligible employees' retirement accounts, along with certain supplemental benefits. Retiree medical benefits were enhanced by adding five additional years to age and service formulas used to determine retiree contributions.

In 2002, pension settlement and curtailment losses and special termination benefits totaled \$33.0 million. This amount related primarily to the non-cash costs for pension settlements associated with departing employees electing a lump sum payment of their pension benefit under the early retirement program and for pension curtailments and special termination benefits associated with the closure of three manufacturing facilities as part of the business realignment initiatives.

The total pre-tax charge for the VWRP recorded in the fourth quarter of 2001 was \$148.7 million and was accrued based on actual employee acceptances. Improved pension benefits under the early retirement program of \$109.1 million will be funded through payments from one of the Corporation's defined benefit pension plans. Enhanced retiree medical benefits of \$30.8 million will be funded from operating cash flows. Additional costs for outplacement services and enhanced severance benefits under a voluntary mutual separation program of \$8.8 million were funded from operating cash flows.

Assumed health care cost trend rates have a significant effect on the amounts reported for the health care plans. A one percentage point change in assumed health care cost trend rates would have the following effects:

1 Percentage Point
Increase1 Percentage Point
(Decrease)

 In thousands of dollars
14. EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP TRUST

The Corporation's employee stock ownership trust (ESOP) serves as the primary vehicle for contributions to its existing Employee Savings Stock Investment and Ownership Plan for participating domestic salaried and hourly employees. The ESOP was funded by a 15-year, 7.75% loan of \$47.9 million from the Corporation. During 2002 and 2001, the ESOP received a combination of dividends on unallocated shares and contributions from the Corporation equal to the amount required to meet its principal and interest payments under the loan. Simultaneously, the ESOP allocated to participants 159,176 shares of Common Stock each year. As of December 31, 2002, the ESOP held 1,060,575 allocated shares and 636,696 unallocated shares. All ESOP shares are considered outstanding for income per share computations.

The Corporation recognized net compensation expense equal to the shares allocated multiplied by the original cost of \$20.06 per share less dividends received by the ESOP on unallocated shares. Compensation expense related to the ESOP for 2002, 2001 and 2000 was \$.9 million, \$1.6 million and \$3.2 million, respectively. Dividends paid on unallocated ESOP shares for 2002, 2001 and 2000 were \$.9 million, \$1.0 million and \$1.1 million, respectively. Dividends paid on all ESOP shares are recorded as a reduction to retained earnings. The unearned ESOP compensation balance in stockholders' equity represented deferred compensation expense to be recognized by the Corporation in future years as additional shares are allocated to participants.

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15. CAPITAL STOCK AND NET INCOME PER SHARE

As of December 31, 2002, the Corporation had 530,000,000 authorized shares of capital stock. Of this total, 450,000,000 shares were designated as Common Stock, 75,000,000 shares as Class B Common Stock (Class B Stock), and 5,000,000 shares as Preferred Stock, each class having a par value of one dollar per share. As of December 31, 2002, a combined total of 179,950,872 shares of both classes of common stock had been issued of which 134,220,137 shares were outstanding. No shares of the Preferred Stock were issued or outstanding during the three-year period ended December 31, 2002.

Holders of the Common Stock and the Class B Stock generally vote together without regard to class on matters submitted to stockholders, including the election of directors, with the Common Stock having one vote per share and the Class B Stock having ten votes per share. However, the Common Stock, voting separately as a class, is entitled to elect one-sixth of the Board of Directors. With respect to dividend rights, the Common Stock is entitled to cash dividends 10% higher than those declared and paid on the Class B Stock.

Class B Stock can be converted into Common Stock on a share-for-share basis at any time. During 2002, 2001 and 2000, a total of 11,500 shares, 8,050 shares and 2,050 shares, respectively, of Class B Stock were converted into Common Stock.

In December 2000, the Corporation's Board of Directors unanimously adopted a Stockholder Protection Rights Agreement (Rights Agreement) and declared a dividend of one right (Right) for each outstanding share of Common Stock and Class B Stock payable to stockholders of record at the close of business on December 26, 2000. The Rights will at no time have voting power or receive dividends. The issuance of the Rights has no dilutive effect, will not affect reported earnings per share, is not taxable and will not change the manner in which the Corporation's Common Stock is traded.

The Rights become exercisable only upon (i) resolution of the Board of Directors after any person has commenced a tender offer that would result in such person becoming the beneficial owner of 15% or more of the Common Stock, (ii) the Corporation's announcement that a person or group has acquired 15% or more of the outstanding shares of Common Stock, or (iii) a person or group becoming the beneficial owner of more than 35% of the voting power of all of the outstanding Common Stock and Class B Stock. When exercisable, each Right entitles its registered holder to purchase from the Corporation, at a pre-determined exercise price, one one-thousandth of a share of Series A Participating Preferred Stock, par value \$1.00 per share (which would be convertible by holders of Class B Stock into Series B Participating Preferred Stock on the basis of one one-thousandths of a share of Series B Participating Preferred Stock for every share of Class B Common Stock held at that time). Each one one-thousandth of a share of Series A Participating Preferred Stock would have economic and voting terms similar to those of one share of Common Stock. Similarly, each one one-thousandth of a share of Series B Participating Preferred Stock would have economic and voting terms similar to those of one share of Class B Stock.

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Upon the earlier of (a) a public announcement by the Corporation that a person or group has acquired 15% or more of the outstanding shares of Common Stock or (b) such person or group acquiring more than 35% of the voting power of the Common Stock and Class B Stock, each Right (except those owned by the acquiring person or group) will automatically become a right to buy, at the pre-determined exercise price, that number of one one-thousandths of a share of Series A Participating Preferred Stock having a market value of twice the exercise price. In addition, if the Corporation is acquired in a merger or other business combination, each Right will entitle a holder to purchase from the acquiring company, for the pre-determined exercise price, preferred stock of the acquiring company having an aggregate market value equal to twice the exercise price.

Further, at any time after a person or group acquires 15% or more (but less than 50%) of the Corporation's Common Stock or more than 35% of the voting power of all outstanding Common Stock and Class B Stock, the Corporation's Board of Directors may, at its option, exchange all (but not less than all) of the outstanding Preferred Stock (other than Rights held by the acquiring person or group)

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for shares of Common Stock or Class B Stock, as applicable, at an exchange ratio of one share of Common Stock or Class B Stock for each one one-thousandth of a share of Preferred Stock.

The Corporation, solely at its option, may amend the Rights or redeem the Rights for \$.01 per Right at any time before the acquisition by a person or group of beneficial ownership of 15% or more of its Common Stock or more than 35% of the voting power of all of the outstanding Common Stock and Class B Stock. Unless redeemed earlier or extended by the Corporation, the Rights will expire on December 14, 2010.

Hershey Trust Company, as Trustee for the benefit of Milton Hershey School (Milton Hershey School Trust), as institutional fiduciary for estates and trusts unrelated to Milton Hershey School, and as direct owner of investment shares, held a total of 12,705,697 shares of the Common Stock, and as Trustee for the benefit of Milton Hershey School, held 30,306,006 shares of the Class B Stock as of December 31, 2002, and was entitled to cast approximately 77.3% of the total votes of both classes of the Corporation's common stock. The Milton Hershey School Trust must approve the issuance of shares of Common Stock or any other action which would result in the Milton Hershey School Trust not continuing to have voting control of the Corporation.

Changes in outstanding Common Stock for the past three years were:

| For the years ended December 31, | 2002 | 2001 | 2000 |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Shares issued | 179,950,872 | 179,950,872 | 179,950,872 |
| Treasury shares at beginning of year | (44,311,870) | (43,669,284) | (41,491,253) |
| Stock repurchases: | | | |
| Repurchase programs | (1,300,345) | (676,600) | (2,284,539) |
| Stock options and benefits | (2,422,385) | (1,037,455) | (957,261) |
| Stock issuances: | | | |
| Stock options and benefits | 2,303,865 | 1,071,469 | 1,063,769 |
| Treasury shares at end of year | (45,730,735) | (44,311,870) | (43,669,284) |
| Net shares outstanding at end of year | 134,220,137 | 135,639,002 | 136,281,588 |

Basic and Diluted Earnings per Share were computed based on the weighted-average number of shares of the Common Stock and the Class B Stock outstanding as follows:

| For the years ended December 31, | 2002 | 2001 | 2000 |
|--|------|------|------|
| In thousands except per share amounts | | | |

For the years ended December 31, 2002, 2001 and 2000, 1.9 million, 2.0 million and 5.5 million stock options, respectively, were not included in the diluted earnings per share calculation because the exercise price was higher than the average market price of the Common Stock for the year and, therefore, the effect would have been antidilutive.

16. STOCK COMPENSATION PLANS

The long-term portion of the Key Employee Incentive Plan (Incentive Plan) provides for grants to senior executives and key employees of stock-based compensation awards of one or more of the following: non-qualified stock options (fixed stock options), performance stock units, stock appreciation rights and restricted stock units. The Incentive Plan also provides for the deferral of performance stock unit and restricted stock unit awards by participants. As of December 31, 2002, 19.0 million shares (inclusive of adjustments for stock splits) were authorized and approved by the Corporation's stockholders for grants under the long-term portion of the Incentive Plan.

In 1996, the Corporation's Board of Directors approved a world-wide, broad-based employee stock option program, called HSY Growth. HSY Growth provided all eligible employees with a one-time grant of 100 non-qualified stock options. Under HSY Growth, over 1.2 million options were granted on January 7, 1997.

Fixed Stock Options

The exercise price of each option equals the market price of the Corporation's Common Stock on the date of grant (determined as the closing price of the Common Stock on the New York Stock Exchange on the business day immediately preceding the date the stock options were granted). Each option has a maximum term of ten years. Options granted under the Incentive Plan prior to December 31, 1999, vest at the end of the second year after grant. In 2000, the terms and conditions of the grant were changed to provide for pro-rated vesting over four years for options granted subsequent to December 31, 1999. Options granted under the HSY Growth program have a term of ten years and vested on January 7, 2002.

A summary of the status of the Corporation's fixed stock options as of December 31, 2002, 2001 and 2000, and changes during the years ending on those dates is presented below:

| Fixed Options | 2002 | | 2001 | | 2000 | |
|--|-------------|---------------------------------|-----------|---------------------------------|-----------|---------------------------------|
| | Shares | Weighted-Average Exercise Price | Shares | Weighted-Average Exercise Price | Shares | Weighted-Average Exercise Price |
| Outstanding at beginning of year | 8,006,561 | \$ 46.39 | 8,298,665 | \$ 43.10 | 6,905,924 | \$ 40.23 |
| Granted | 1,356,605 | \$ 69.33 | 781,900 | \$ 62.43 | 2,403,400 | \$ 44.99 |
| Exercised | (2,184,592) | \$ 39.53 | (921,043) | \$ 30.22 | (933,219) | \$ 26.19 |
| Forfeited | (214,012) | \$ 50.30 | (152,961) | \$ 46.84 | (77,440) | \$ 49.81 |
| Outstanding at end of year | 6,964,562 | \$ 52.97 | 8,006,561 | \$ 46.39 | 8,298,665 | \$ 43.10 |
| Options exercisable at year-end | 3,970,269 | \$ 48.37 | 4,544,590 | \$ 44.73 | 4,655,855 | \$ 41.24 |
| Weighted-average fair value of options granted during the year (per share) | \$ 20.96 | | \$ 18.58 | | \$ 15.58 | |

The following table summarizes information about fixed stock options outstanding as of December 31, 2002:

| Options Outstanding | Options Exercisable |
|---------------------|---------------------|
|---------------------|---------------------|

| Range of Exercise Prices | Options Outstanding | | | Options Exercisable | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| | Number Outstanding as of 12/31/02 | Weighted-Average Remaining Contractual Life in Years | Weighted-Average Exercise Price | Number Exercisable as of 12/31/02 | Weighted-Average Exercise Price |
| \$24.1875-37.625 | 1,070,425 | 2.8 | \$32.01 | 1,070,425 | \$32.01 |
| \$41.00-49.8125 | 2,333,793 | 6.6 | \$44.92 | 1,230,702 | \$44.85 |
| \$55.1875-72.07 | 3,560,344 | 7.3 | \$64.55 | 1,669,142 | \$61.45 |
| \$24.1875-72.07 | 6,964,562 | 6.3 | \$52.97 | 3,970,269 | \$48.37 |

Performance Stock Units and Restricted Stock Units

Under the long-term portion of the Incentive Plan, each January the Corporation grants selected executives and other key employees performance stock units whose vesting is contingent upon the achievement of certain performance objectives. If at the end of the applicable three-year performance cycle targets for financial measures are met, the full number of shares are awarded to the participants. The performance scores can range from 0% to 275% of the targeted amounts. Restricted stock units were awarded in 2001 and 2002 under the long-term portion of the Incentive Plan to certain executive officers and were also awarded quarterly to non-employee directors of the Corporation as part of the Directors Compensation Plan. The compensation amount charged against income for performance and restricted stock units was \$6.4 million, \$6.6 million and \$1.8 million for 2002, 2001 and 2000, respectively. The compensation cost associated with the performance stock units is recognized ratably over the three-year term based on the year-end market value of the stock. The compensation cost associated with employee restricted stock units is recognized over a specified restriction period based on the year-end market value of the stock. The compensation cost associated with non-employee director restricted stock units is recognized at the grant date and adjusted based on the year-end market value of the stock. Performance stock units and restricted stock units granted for potential future distribution were as follows:

| For the years ended December 31, | 2002 | 2001 | 2000 |
|----------------------------------|------|------|------|
|----------------------------------|------|------|------|

Deferred performance stock units, deferred restricted stock units, deferred directors fees and accumulated dividend amounts totaled 320,939 shares as of December 31, 2002.

No stock appreciation rights were outstanding as of December 31, 2002.

17. SUPPLEMENTAL BALANCE SHEET INFORMATION

Accounts Receivable Trade

In the normal course of business, the Corporation extends credit to customers that satisfy pre-defined credit criteria. The Corporation believes that it has little concentration of credit risk due to the diversity of its customer base. As of December 31, 2002, Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. and subsidiaries accounted for approximately 21% of the Corporation's total accounts receivable. As of December 31, 2002, no other customer accounted for more than 10% of the Corporation's total accounts receivable. Receivables, as shown on the Consolidated Balance Sheets, were net of allowances and anticipated discounts of \$16.5 million and \$16.0 million as of December 31, 2002 and 2001, respectively.

Inventories

The Corporation values the majority of its inventories under the last-in, first-out (LIFO) method and the remaining inventories at the lower of first-in, first-out (FIFO) cost or market. Inventories

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include material, labor and overhead. LIFO cost of inventories valued using the LIFO method was \$334.4 million and \$351.1 million as of December 31, 2002 and 2001, respectively, and inventories were stated at amounts that did not exceed realizable values. Total inventories were as follows:

| December 31, | 2002 | 2001 |
|--------------------------------|------------|------------|
| In thousands of dollars | | |
| Raw materials | \$ 154,893 | \$ 160,343 |
| Goods in process | 53,814 | 51,184 |
| Finished goods | 347,677 | 354,100 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| Inventories at FIFO | 556,384 | 565,627 |
| Adjustment to LIFO | (53,093) | (53,493) |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| Total inventories | \$ 503,291 | \$ 512,134 |

Property, Plant and Equipment

Property, plant and equipment balances included construction in progress of \$121.4 million and \$101.8 million as of December 31, 2002 and 2001, respectively. Net write-downs of property, plant and equipment of \$45.3 million were recorded as a result of asset impairments associated with the Corporation's business realignment initiatives recorded in the fourth quarter of 2001. These initiatives included plans to close several manufacturing facilities to improve supply chain efficiency and to sell certain businesses as part of product line rationalization programs. Major classes of property, plant and equipment were as follows:

| December 31, | 2002 | 2001 |
|--------------|------|------|
|--------------|------|------|

In thousands of dollars

As of December 31, 2002, certain real estate with a net realizable value of \$4.0 million was being held for sale. These assets were associated with the closure of facilities as part of the Corporation's business realignment initiatives.

Accrued Liabilities

Accrued liabilities were as follows:

| December 31, | 2002 | 2001 |
|--------------|------|------|
|--------------|------|------|

In thousands of dollars

Accrued liabilities for payroll, compensation and benefits were higher in 2001 than in 2002 primarily as a result of the recording in the fourth quarter of 2001 the enhanced benefits of the VWRP, which was part of the business realignment initiatives.

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Other Long-term Liabilities

Other long-term liabilities were as follows:

| December 31, | 2002 | 2001 |
|--------------|------|------|
|--------------|------|------|

In thousands of dollars

18. SEGMENT INFORMATION

The Corporation operates as a single reportable segment, encompassing the manufacture, distribution and sale of confectionery and grocery products. The Corporation's four operating segments are comprised of geographic areas including the United States, Canada and Mexico, and the combination of the Corporation's other international operations. For purposes of segment reporting, the Corporation's North American operations, the United States, Canada and Mexico, have been aggregated in accordance with the criteria of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 131, *Disclosures about Segments of an Enterprise and Related Information*. The North American operations were aggregated on the basis of their similar economic characteristics and the similarity of their products and services, production processes, types or classes of customers for their products and services, methods used to distribute products, and the nature of the regulatory environments. The Corporation's other international operations were aggregated with its North American operations to form one reportable segment, since the other international operations combined share most of the aggregation criteria and represent less than 10% of consolidated revenues, operating profits and assets. Consolidated net sales represented primarily sales of confectionery products.

The Corporation's principal operations and markets are located in the United States. The Corporation manufactures, markets, sells and distributes confectionery and grocery products in Canada, Mexico and Brazil, imports and/or markets selected confectionery products in China, the Philippines, Japan and South Korea and markets confectionery products in over 90 countries worldwide. Net sales and long-lived assets of businesses outside of the United States were not significant.

Sales to Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. and subsidiaries exceeded 10% of total net sales and amounted to approximately \$857.9 million, \$777.7 million and \$674.2 million in 2002, 2001 and 2000, respectively.

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19. QUARTERLY DATA (Unaudited)

Summary quarterly results were as follows:

| Year 2002 | First | Second | Third | Fourth |
|-----------|-------|--------|-------|--------|
|-----------|-------|--------|-------|--------|

In thousands of dollars except per share amounts

- (a) Quarterly income per share amounts do not total to the annual amounts due to changes in weighted-average shares outstanding during the year.
- (b) Net income (loss) for the fourth quarter and year 2001 included a total after-tax charge for the business realignment initiatives of \$171.9 million. Net income (loss) per share was similarly impacted.

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RESPONSIBILITY FOR FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Hershey Foods Corporation is responsible for the financial statements and other financial information contained in this report. The Corporation believes that the financial statements have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States appropriate under the circumstances to reflect in all material respects the substance of applicable events and transactions. In preparing the financial statements, it is necessary that management make informed estimates and judgments. The other financial information in this annual report is consistent with the financial statements.

The Corporation maintains a system of internal accounting controls designed to provide reasonable assurance that financial records are reliable for purposes of preparing financial statements and that assets are properly accounted for and safeguarded. The concept of reasonable assurance is based on the recognition that the cost of the system must be related to the benefits to be derived. The Corporation believes its system provides an appropriate balance in this regard. The Corporation maintains an Internal Audit Department which reviews the adequacy and tests the application of internal accounting controls.

The 2002 financial statements have been audited by KPMG LLP, independent auditors, whose appointment was approved by the Corporation's Board of Directors on May 10, 2002, following dismissal on April 30, 2002 of Arthur Andersen LLP, the Corporation's former independent auditors. KPMG LLP's report expresses an opinion that the Corporation's 2002 financial statements are fairly stated in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States, and their report states that their audit was performed in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States which are

designed to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement.

The Audit Committee of the Board of Directors of the Corporation, consisting solely of non-management directors, meets regularly with the independent auditors, internal auditors and management to discuss, among other things, the audit scopes and results. KPMG LLP and the internal auditors both have full and free access to the Audit Committee, with and without the presence of management.

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS REPORT

The Board of Directors and Stockholders
Hershey Foods Corporation:

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheet of Hershey Foods Corporation and subsidiaries (the Corporation) as of December 31, 2002, and the related consolidated statements of income, cash flows and stockholders' equity for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Corporation's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. The accompanying consolidated balance sheet of Hershey Foods Corporation and subsidiaries as of December 31, 2001, and the related consolidated statements of income, cash flows and stockholders' equity for the years ended December 31, 2001 and 2000, before the revisions described in Notes 1 and 5 to the consolidated financial statements, were audited by other auditors who have ceased operations. Those auditors expressed an unqualified opinion on those financial statements in their report dated January 22, 2002.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Hershey Foods Corporation and subsidiaries as of December 31, 2002, and the results of their operations and their cash flows for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

As discussed above, the accompanying consolidated balance sheet of Hershey Foods Corporation and subsidiaries as of December 31, 2001, and the related consolidated statements of income, cash flows and stockholders' equity for the years ended December 31, 2001 and 2000 were audited by other auditors who have ceased operations. As described in Notes 1 and 5, these financial statements have been revised to include the transitional disclosures required by Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 142, *Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets*, which was adopted by the Corporation as of January 1, 2002. As described in Note 1, these financial statements have been revised to reflect reclassifications of certain consumer and trade promotional expenses as required by Emerging Issues Task Force No. 01-9, *Accounting for Consideration Given by a Vendor to a Customer or Reseller of the Vendor's Products*. In our opinion, the disclosures and reclassifications for 2001 and 2000 as described in Notes 1 and 5 are appropriate. However, we were not engaged to audit, review, or apply any procedures to the 2001 and 2000 financial statements of the Hershey Foods Corporation other than with respect to such disclosures and reclassifications and, accordingly, we do not express an opinion or any other form of assurance on the 2001 and 2000 financial statements taken as a whole.

New York, New York
January 29, 2003

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REPORT OF PREDECESSOR AUDITOR (ARTHUR ANDERSEN LLP)

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The following report is a copy of a report previously issued by Arthur Andersen LLP and has not been reissued by Arthur Andersen LLP. As discussed in Note 1, in 2002, the Corporation adopted the provisions of Emerging Issues Task Force Issue 01-9, *Accounting for Consideration Given by a Vendor to a Customer* which requires reclassification of certain consumer and trade promotional expenses in the 2001 and 2000 consolidated income statements. Also, in 2002, the Corporation adopted Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 142, *Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets* (SFAS No. 142). Included in Notes 1 and 5 are transitional disclosures for 2001 and 2000 that are required by SFAS No. 142. The Arthur Andersen LLP report does not extend to these changes in the 2001 and 2000 consolidated financial statements. The adjustments to the 2001 and 2000 consolidated financial statements were reported on by KPMG LLP as stated in their report appearing herein.

To the Stockholders and Board of Directors
of Hershey Foods Corporation:

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Hershey Foods Corporation (a Delaware Corporation) and subsidiaries as of December 31, 2001 and 2000, and the related consolidated statements of income, cash flows and stockholders equity for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2001, appearing on pages A-16 through A-43. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Corporation's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Hershey Foods Corporation and subsidiaries as of December 31, 2001 and 2000, and the results of their operations and their cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2001 in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States.

New York, New York
January 22, 2002

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HERSHEY FOODS CORPORATION SIX-YEAR CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL SUMMARY All dollar and share amounts in thousands except market price and per share statistics

| | 5-Year Compound Growth Rate | 2002 | 2001 | 2000 | 1999 | 1998 | 1997 |
|---|--------------------------------------|--------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Summary of Operations | | | | | | | |
| Net Sales(a) | 1.3% | \$ 4,120,317 | 4,137,217 | 3,820,416 | 3,586,183 | 3,974,832 | 3,853,344 |
| Cost of Sales | 0.6% | \$ 2,561,052 | 2,668,530 | 2,471,151 | 2,354,724 | 2,625,057 | 2,488,896 |
| Selling, Marketing and Administrative(a) | 2.6% | \$ 833,426 | 846,976 | 726,615 | 673,099 | 707,112 | 734,238 |
| Business Realignment and Asset Impairments | | \$ 27,552 | 228,314 | | | | |

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| | 5-Year Compound Growth Rate | 2002 | 2001 | 2000 | 1999 | 1998 | 1997 |
|---|--------------------------------------|------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Charge | | | | | | | |
| Gain on Sale of Businesses(b) | | \$ | 19,237 | | 243,785 | | |
| Interest Expense, Net | (4.5)% | \$ | 60,722 | 69,093 | 76,011 | 74,271 | 85,657 |
| Provision for Income Taxes | 1.5% | \$ | 233,987 | 136,385 | 212,096 | 267,564 | 216,118 |
| Net Income | 3.7% | \$ | 403,578 | 207,156 | 334,543 | 460,310 | 340,888 |
| Earnings Per Share: | | | | | | | |
| Basic | 5.6% | \$ | 2.96 | 1.52 | 2.44 | 3.29 | 2.38 |
| Diluted | 5.6% | \$ | 2.93 | 1.50 | 2.42 | 3.26 | 2.34 |
| Weighted Average Shares Outstanding: | | | | | | | |
| Basic | | | 136,538 | 136,245 | 137,326 | 140,031 | 143,446 |
| Diluted | | | 137,714 | 137,696 | 138,365 | 141,300 | 145,563 |
| Dividends Paid on Common Stock | 6.3% | \$ | 133,285 | 122,790 | 115,209 | 109,175 | 103,616 |
| Per Share | 8.4% | \$ | 1.26 | 1.165 | 1.08 | 1.00 | .92 |
| Dividends Paid on Class B Common Stock | 8.3% | \$ | 34,536 | 31,960 | 29,682 | 27,553 | 25,428 |
| Per Share | 8.4% | \$ | 1.135 | 1.05 | .975 | .905 | .835 |
| Net Income as a Percent of Net Sales(a) (c) | | | 10.6% | 9.5% | 9.0% | 8.6% | 9.0% |
| Depreciation | 2.8% | \$ | 155,384 | 153,493 | 140,168 | 135,574 | 138,489 |
| Advertising(a) | (3.8)% | \$ | 162,874 | 187,244 | 156,319 | 158,965 | 182,383 |
| Consumer Promotions(a) | 12.2% | \$ | 62,893 | 53,450 | 46,615 | 35,380 | 31,521 |
| Payroll | 2.5% | \$ | 594,372 | 614,197 | 557,342 | 534,854 | 563,045 |
| Year-end Position and Statistics | | | | | | | |
| Capital Additions | (5.2)% | \$ | 132,736 | 160,105 | 138,333 | 115,448 | 161,328 |
| Capitalized Software Additions | (16.5)% | \$ | 11,836 | 9,845 | 4,686 | 25,394 | 42,859 |
| Total Assets | 1.1% | \$ | 3,480,551 | 3,247,430 | 3,447,764 | 3,346,652 | 3,404,098 |
| Long-term Portion of Debt | (3.7)% | \$ | 851,800 | 876,972 | 877,654 | 878,213 | 879,103 |
| Stockholders Equity | 10.0% | \$ | 1,371,703 | 1,147,204 | 1,175,036 | 1,098,627 | 1,042,301 |
| Operating Return on Average Stockholders Equity(c) | | | 34.6% | 33.7% | 30.2% | 28.9% | 37.6% |
| Operating Return on Average Invested Capital(c) | | | 19.7% | 18.7% | 16.5% | 15.4% | 18.1% |
| Full-time Employees | | | 13,700 | 14,400 | 14,300 | 13,900 | 14,700 |
| Stockholders Data | | | 134,220 | 135,639 | 136,282 | 138,460 | 143,147 |
| | | | | | | | 142,932 |

| | 5-Year Compound Growth Rate | 2002 | 2001 | 2000 | 1999 | 1998 | 1997 |
|--|--|---------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Outstanding Shares of Common Stock and Class B Common Stock at Year-end | | | | | | | |
| Market Price of Common Stock at Year-end | 1.7% | \$ 67.44 | 67.70 | 64.38 | 47.44 | 62.19 | 61.94 |
| Range During Year | | \$79.49-56.45 | 70.15-55.13 | 66.44-37.75 | 64.88-45.75 | 76.38-59.69 | 63.88-42.13 |

- (a) All years have been restated in accordance with final consensus reached on various EITF issues regarding the reporting of certain sales incentives.
- (b) Includes the gain on the sale of the *Luden's* throat drops business in 2001 and the gain on the sale of the Corporation's pasta business in 1999.
- (c) Net Income as a Percent of Sales, Operating Return on Average Stockholders' Equity and Operating Return on Average Invested Capital have been calculated using Net Income, excluding the after-tax impacts of the elimination of amortization of intangibles for all years, the after-tax effect of the 2001 and 2002 Business Realignment Initiatives, the after-tax effect of incremental expenses to explore the possible sale of the Corporation in 2002, the 1999 and 2001 Gain on the Sale of Businesses and the 2000 gain on the sale of certain Corporate aircraft. Net Income as a Percent of Net Sales, as reported above was 9.8% in 2002, 5.0% in 2001, 8.8% in 2000, 12.8% in 1999, 8.6% in 1998 and 8.7% in 1997.

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Appendix B

Other Stockholder Information

OTHER STOCKHOLDER INFORMATION

INVESTOR INFORMATION**Stockholders**

As of December 31, 2002, Hershey Foods Corporation had outstanding 103,797,829 shares of Common Stock and 30,422,308 shares of Class B Common Stock.

| Year | Year-End Common Stock and Class B Common Stock Stockholders | Approximate Annual Composite Trading Volume |
|-------------|---|---|
| 2002 | 38,754 | 211,228,000 |
| 2001 | 40,311 | 126,731,000 |
| 2000 | 41,482 | 138,636,000 |
| 1999 | 43,265 | 128,557,000 |
| 1998 | 44,364 | 78,955,000 |

Stock Market Data

Hershey Foods Corporation's Common Stock is listed and traded principally on the New York Stock Exchange under the ticker symbol HSY. Class B Common Stock is not listed for trading. The stock tables of most financial publications list the Corporation as Hershey. Options on the Corporation's Common Stock are traded on the American Stock Exchange.

Common Stock Profile

| 2002 Calendar Quarter | Common Stock Price | | | Dividends Paid Per Share | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|---------|---------|--------------------------|---------------|
| | High | Low | Close | Common Stock | Class B Stock |
| 1st Quarter | \$72.49 | \$65.92 | \$68.54 | \$.3025 | \$.2725 |
| 2nd Quarter | 72.14 | 62.13 | 62.50 | .3025 | .2725 |

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| | Common Stock Price | | | Dividends Paid Per Share | |
|-------------|--------------------|-------|-------|--------------------------|-------|
| 3rd Quarter | 79.49 | 56.45 | 62.05 | .3275 | .2950 |
| 4th Quarter | 67.99 | 61.22 | 67.44 | .3275 | .2950 |

Dividend Policy

Dividends on Hershey Foods Corporation's Common Stock and Class B Common Stock are declared by the Board of Directors and are normally paid in March, June, September and December.

The dividend paid on the Common Stock on March 14, 2003, was the 293rd consecutive quarterly dividend paid by the Corporation. The dividend rate has been increased annually for 28 consecutive years. Historically, the Corporation has targeted approximately one-third of its income from continuing operations for dividends to stockholders.

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Investor Services Program

The Corporation, through its agent Mellon Bank, N.A., offers an Investor Services Program. Features of the program include the ability to purchase initial shares of Hershey Foods Corporation Common Stock, as well as subsequent shares, directly from our agent; dividend reinvestment; automatic monthly deductions from a bank account for optional cash purchases; safekeeping of certificates; and direct deposit of dividends. For more information, contact:

Mellon Bank, N.A.
c/o Mellon Investor Services LLC
P. O. Box 3338
South Hackensack, NJ 07606-1938
(800) 851-4216

www.melloninvestor.com
To request enrollment materials,
please call (800) 842-7629.

Stockholder Inquiries

Questions relating to stockholder records, change of ownership, change of address and dividend payments should be sent to the Corporation's Transfer Agent, Mellon Investor Services LLC, whose address appears below.

Financial Information

Security analysts, investment managers and stockholders should direct financial information inquiries to the Investor Relations contact listed below.

2002 Annual Report

The 2002 Annual Report to Stockholders, including the Consolidated Financial Statements and Management's Discussion and Analysis, is included as Appendix A to the Corporation's Proxy Statement. Further information regarding various aspects of the Corporation's business can be found on the corporate web site (www.hersheys.com).

Electronic Delivery

In an effort to reduce paper mailed to your home and help lower printing and postage costs, we are pleased to offer to stockholders the convenience of viewing online Proxy Statements, Annual Reports to Stockholders and related materials. With your consent, we can stop sending future paper copies of these documents. To participate, follow the instructions at www.icsdelivery.com/hsy or select the Online Proxy/Voting option in the Investor Relations section of the Corporation's web site.

Online Voting at www.proxyvote.com

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Use the Internet to transmit your voting instructions anytime before 11:59 p.m. EDT on April 21, 2003. Have your proxy card in hand when you access the web site. You will be prompted to enter your Control Number to obtain your records and create an electronic voting instruction form.

B-2

STOCKHOLDER INFORMATION

Executive Offices

100 Crystal A Drive
P. O. Box 810
Hershey, PA 17033-0810
(717) 534-4000

Independent Auditors

KPMG LLP
345 Park Avenue
New York, NY 10017

Transfer Agent and Registrar

Mellon Investor Services LLC
85 Challenger Road
Ridgefield Park, NJ 07660
www.melloninvestor.com
(800) 851-4216 Domestic Holders
(201) 329-8660 Foreign Holders
(800) 231-5469 Hearing Impaired

Investor Relations Contact

James A. Edris
Vice President, Investor Relations
100 Crystal A Drive
P. O. Box 810
Hershey, PA 17033-0810
(800) 539-0261
jedris@hersheys.com

Financial Information

(800) 539-0261
www.hersheys.com

www.hersheys.com

Hershey Foods Corporation's web site provides access to a wide variety of information, including products, recipes, news releases, a plant tour and consumer information. A principal feature of the web site is the Investor Relations section which contains general financial information (e.g., Hershey's corporate overview, Mission Statement, product information, financial fundamentals, and current stock quotes), SEC filings and archived information (e.g., historical financial releases, annual reports, dividends and stock prices). The site also provides analyst presentations and audio archives of conference calls and analyst group presentations for those interested in a more in-depth review of the Corporation's operations as presented by senior management to the financial community. Another interesting feature is the email alert, which allows users to receive automatic updates informing them when new items such as calendar events, presentations, dividends, annual reports and SEC documents are added to the site.

www.melloninvestor.com

Mellon Investor Services' web site provides access to an Internet self-service product, *Investor ServiceDirect*(SM) (ISD). Through ISD, stockholders can view their account profiles, stock certificate histories, dividend reinvestment/book-entry transactions (including any new funds pending investment), dividend payment histories, Form 1099 tax information, current stock price quote (20-minute delay), and historical stock prices. Stockholders may also request a replacement dividend check, the issuance of stock certificates or the sale of shares from a book-entry position, duplicate Form 1099 or dividend reinvestment statement, information concerning safekeeping of stock certificates, an address change, or stock transfer instructions. Future ISD enhancements are planned; be sure to check the www.melloninvestor.com web site.

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DIRECTORS AND HERSHEY EXECUTIVE TEAM

As of March 26, 2003

Directors

Richard H. Lenny
Chairman of the Board,
President and
Chief Executive Officer

Jon A. Boscia
Chairman and Chief
Executive Officer
Lincoln National Corporation
Philadelphia, PA

Robert H. Campbell
Chairman of the Board and
Chief Executive Officer
(Retired)
Sunoco, Inc.
Philadelphia, PA

Gary P. Coughlan
Senior Vice President,
Finance and Chief Financial
Officer *(Retired)*
Abbott Laboratories, Inc.
Abbott Park, IL

Bonnie G. Hill
President
B. Hill Enterprises, LLC;
Chief Operating Officer
Icon Blue, Inc.
Los Angeles, CA

John C. Jamison
President
Williamsburg Community Trust
Williamsburg, VA

Mackey J. McDonald
Chairman of the Board,
Chief Executive Officer
and President
VF Corporation
Greensboro, NC

John M. Pietruski
Chairman of the Board
Texas Biotechnology
Corporation
Houston, TX

Audit Committee

John C. Jamison, Chair
Jon A. Boscia
Robert H. Campbell
Gary P. Coughlan
Bonnie G. Hill

**Committee on Directors
and Corporate Governance**

John M. Pietruski, Chair
Jon A. Boscia
Richard H. Lenny

**Compensation and
Executive Organization
Committee**

Mackey J. McDonald, Chair
Robert H. Campbell
Gary P. Coughlan
Bonnie G. Hill

Executive Committee

Richard H. Lenny, Chair
John C. Jamison
Mackey J. McDonald
John M. Pietruski

Hershey Executive Team

Richard H. Lenny
Chairman of the Board,
President and
Chief Executive Officer

Marcella K. Arline
Senior Vice President
Human Resources and
Corporate Affairs

Raymond Brace
Vice President
Operations and Technology

Frank Cerminara
Senior Vice President
Chief Financial Officer

George F. Davis
Vice President
Chief Information Officer

Dennis N. Eshleman
Vice President
Strategy and Innovation

Burton H. Snyder
General Counsel,
Secretary and Senior Vice
President, International

David J. West
Senior Vice President
Sales

Admission Ticket

2003 Annual Meeting of Stockholders

Tuesday, April 22, 2003
2:00 p.m.

The Hershey Lodge & Convention Center

West Chocolate Avenue and University Drive
Hershey, PA

*Presenting this Admission Ticket at
HERSHEY S CHOCOLATE WORLD visitors center
entitles you to 25% off all confectionery products,
Hershey s gifts and souvenir items from
9:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m.
on April 22, 2003.*

Offer good on April 22, 2003 only.

FOLD AND DETACH HERE

FOLD AND DETACH HERE

HERSHEY FOODS CORPORATION

STOCKHOLDER S PROXY AND CONFIDENTIAL VOTING INSTRUCTION CARD

The undersigned hereby appoints R. H. Lenny and B. H. Snyder, and each of them, as Proxies, with full power of substitution, to attend the Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held at 2:00 p.m., April 22, 2003, at The Hershey Lodge & Convention Center, West Chocolate Avenue and University Drive, Hershey, Pennsylvania, or at any adjournment thereof (Annual Meeting), and to vote all of the undersigned s shares of the Corporation s Common Stock in the manner directed on the reverse side of this card. The shares represented by this proxy, when executed properly, will be voted in the manner directed. **If no direction is given, this proxy will be voted FOR items 1 and 2, and AGAINST item 3, as set forth on the reverse side.**

This proxy also provides voting instructions for shares held by American Express Trust Company*, as Trustee of the Hershey Foods Corporation Employee Savings Stock Investment and Ownership Plan (ESSIOP), and directs such Trustee to vote at the Annual Meeting all of the shares of Common Stock of Hershey Foods Corporation which are allocated to the undersigned s ESSIOP account in the manner directed on the reverse side of this card. If no direction is given or is received after April 18, 2003, the Trustee will vote the shares in the same proportion as the final aggregate vote of the ESSIOP participants actually voting on the matter.

This proxy/voting instruction card is solicited on behalf of the Board of Directors pursuant to a separate Notice of Annual Meeting and Proxy Statement dated March 26, 2003, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged. The shares of Common Stock represented by this proxy shall be entitled to one vote for each such share held. Except with regard to voting separately as a class on the election of Mmes. Edelman and Toulantis, shares of the Common Stock will vote together with shares of the Class B Common Stock without regard to class.

THIS PROXY AND VOTING INSTRUCTION CARD IS CONTINUED ON THE REVERSE SIDE.

*American Express Trust Company, Trustee, has appointed Automatic Data Processing as agent to tally the vote.

**C/O MELLON INVESTOR SERVICES
P.O. BOX 3500
SOUTH HACKENSACK, NJ 07606-9200**

VOTE BY INTERNET [www.proxyvote.com]

Use the Internet to transmit your voting instructions anytime before 11:59 p.m. EDT on April 21, 2003. Have your proxy card in hand when you access the web site. You will be prompted to enter your 12-digit Control Number which is located below to obtain your records and create an electronic voting instruction form.

VOTE BY PHONE 1-800-690-6903

Use any touch-tone telephone to transmit your voting instructions before 11:59 p.m. EDT on April 21, 2003. Have your proxy card in hand when you call. You will be prompted to enter your 12-digit Control Number which is located below and then follow the simple instructions the Vote Voice provides you.

VOTE BY MAIL

Mark, sign and date your proxy card and return it in the postage-paid envelope we have provided or return to Hershey Foods Corporation, c/o ADP, 51 Mercedes Way, Edgewood, NY 11717.

TO VOTE, MARK BLOCKS BELOW IN BLUE OR BLACK INK AS FOLLOWS:

HFCPRY

KEEP THIS PORTION FOR YOUR RECORDS

DETACH AND RETURN THIS PORTION ONLY

THIS PROXY CARD IS VALID ONLY WHEN SIGNED AND DATED.

HERSHEY FOODS CORPORATION

The Board of Directors recommends a vote FOR the following actions (as described in the accompanying Proxy Statement).

Vote On Directors

For All Withhold All For All Except

To withhold authority to vote, mark "For All Except" and write the nominee's number on the line below.

1. Nominees: 01) J. A. Boscia, 02) R. H. Campbell, 03) G. P. Coughlan, 04) H. Edelman, 05) B. G. Hill, 06) J. C. Jamison, 07) R. H. Lenny, 08) M. J. McDonald, 09) M. J. Toulantis

Vote On Proposals

For Against Abstain

2. Approve Appointment of KPMG LLP as Independent Auditors

The proxies are authorized to vote, in their discretion, for a substitute should any nominee become unavailable for election and upon such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

The Board of Directors recommends a vote AGAINST the following stockholder proposal (as described in the accompanying Proxy Statement), if presented at the Annual Meeting.

Please follow the instructions above to vote by Internet or telephone or mark, sign [exactly as name(s) appears above], and date this card and mail promptly in the postage-paid, return envelope provided. Executors, administrators,

trustees, attorneys, guardians, etc., should so indicate when signing.

| | For | Against | Abstain |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 3. Stockholder proposal on expensing stock options | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

HOUSEHOLDING ELECTION

Mark "YES" to enroll this account to receive certain future security holder documents in a single package per household. Mark "NO" if you do not want to participate. See enclosed notice. To change your election in the future, call 1-800-542-1061.

Yes No

Yes No Do you plan to attend the Annual Meeting?

HOUSEHOLDING ELECTION >

| | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| | |
| Signature [PLEASE SIGN WITHIN BOX] | Signature (Joint Owners) |
| Date | Date |

Admission Ticket

2003 Annual Meeting of Stockholders

Tuesday, April 22, 2003
2:00 p.m.

The Hershey Lodge & Convention Center

West Chocolate Avenue and University Drive
Hershey, PA

*Presenting this Admission Ticket at
HERSHEY S CHOCOLATE WORLD visitors center
entitles you to 25% off all confectionery products,
Hershey s gifts and souvenir items from
9:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m.
on April 22, 2003.*

Offer good on April 22, 2003 only.

FOLD AND DETACH HERE

FOLD AND DETACH HERE

HERSHEY FOODS CORPORATION

CLASS B COMMON STOCK

This Proxy is Solicited on Behalf of the Board of Directors

The undersigned, having received the Notice of Meeting and Proxy Statement dated March 26, 2003, appoints R. H. Lenny and B. H. Snyder, and each of them, as Proxies, with full power of substitution, to represent and vote all of the undersigned's shares of the Corporation's Class B Common Stock at the Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held at 2:00 p.m., April 22, 2003, at The Hershey Lodge & Convention Center, West Chocolate Avenue and University Drive, Hershey, Pennsylvania, or at any adjournment thereof.

The shares of Class B Common Stock represented by this proxy will be voted in the manner directed herein by the undersigned stockholder(s), who shall be entitled to ten votes for each such share held. **If no direction is given, this proxy will be voted FOR items 1 and 2, and AGAINST item 3, as set forth on the reverse side.**

This proxy is continued on the reverse side.

PLEASE SIGN ON THE REVERSE SIDE AND RETURN PROMPTLY.

**C/O MELLON INVESTOR SERVICES
P.O. BOX 3500
SOUTH HACKENSACK, NJ 07606-9200**

VOTE BY INTERNET [www.proxyvote.com]

Use the Internet to transmit your voting instructions anytime before 11:59 p.m. EDT on April 21, 2003. Have your proxy card in hand when you access the web site. You will be prompted to enter your 12-digit Control Number which is located below to obtain your records and create an electronic voting instruction form.

VOTE BY PHONE 1-800-690-6903

Use any touch-tone telephone to transmit your voting instructions before 11:59 p.m. EDT on April 21, 2003. Have your proxy card in hand when you call. You will be prompted to enter your 12-digit Control Number which is located below and then follow the simple instructions the Vote Voice provides you.

VOTE BY MAIL

Mark, sign and date your proxy card and return it in the postage-paid envelope we have provided or return to Hershey Foods Corporation, c/o ADP, 51 Mercedes Way, Edgewood, NY 11717.

TO VOTE, MARK BLOCKS BELOW IN BLUE OR BLACK INK AS FOLLOWS:

HFCPRX

KEEP THIS PORTION FOR YOUR RECORDS

DETACH AND RETURN THIS PORTION ONLY

THIS PROXY CARD IS VALID ONLY WHEN SIGNED AND DATED.

HERSHEY FOODS CORPORATION

The Board of Directors recommends a vote FOR the following actions (as described in the accompanying Proxy Statement).

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| | | | | |
|---|----------------|---------------------|-----------------------|--|
| Vote On Directors | For All | Withhold All | For All Except | To withhold authority to vote, mark "For All Except" and write the nominee's number on the line below. |
| 1. Nominees: 01) J. A. Boscia, 02) R. H. Campbell, 03) G. P. Coughlan, 04) B. G. Hill, 05) J. C. Jamison, 06) R. H. Lenny, 07) M. J. McDonald | _ | _ | _ | |

| | | | |
|--|------------|----------------|----------------|
| | For | Against | Abstain |
| Vote On Proposals | | | |
| 2. Approve Appointment of KPMG LLP as Independent Auditors | _ | _ | _ |

The proxies are authorized to vote, in their discretion, for a substitute should any nominee become unavailable for election and upon such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

The Board of Directors recommends a vote AGAINST the following stockholder proposal (as described in the accompanying Proxy Statement), if presented at the Annual Meeting.

Please follow the instructions above to vote by Internet or telephone or mark, sign [exactly as name(s) appears above], and date this card and mail promptly in the postage-paid, return envelope provided. Executors, administrators, trustees, attorneys, guardians, etc., should so indicate when signing.

| | | | |
|--|------------|----------------|----------------|
| | For | Against | Abstain |
| 3. Stockholder proposal on expensing stock options | _ | _ | _ |

Yes No

Do you plan to attend the Annual Meeting? |_| |_|

 Signature [PLEASE SIGN WITHIN BOX] Date

 Signature (Joint Owners) Date