

FORM 5
ANNUAL STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

Check box if no longer subject to Section 16.
Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue.

Form 3 Holdings Reported

Form 4 Transactions Reported

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person(s)
Alexander William H.
16 Wagner Street
Hummelstown, PA 17036
2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
Hershey Foods Corporation (HSY)
3. IRS or Social Security Number of Reporting Person (Voluntary)
###-##-####
4. Statement for Month/Year
December 31, 1997
5. If Amendment, Date of Original (Month/Year)
6. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)
 Director 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)
7. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)
 Form filed by One Reporting Person
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

Table I Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1) Title of Security	2) Trans- action Date (Month/ Day/Year)	3) Trans- action Code	4) Securities Acquired(A) or Disposed of (D) A or D Price	5) Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned at End of Year	6) D or I	7) Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership
Common Stock				1,400.0000	D	
Common Stock				36.0000	I	by Spouse
Common Stock				1,200.0000	I	by Trust

Table II (PART 1) Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (Columns 1 through 6)

1) Title of Derivative Security	2) Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3) Trans- action Date	4) Trans- action Code	5) Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) A D	6) Date Exercisable and Expiration Date Exercisable Expiration
Common Stock Equivalents		12/15/97 (1)	J	1,136.2070	

Table II (PART 2) Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (Columns 1,3 and 7 through 11)

1) Title of Derivative Security	3) Trans- action Date	7) Title and Amount of Underlying Securities Title	8) Price of Deri- vative Security Amount or Number of Shares	9) Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned at End of Year	10) D or I	11) Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership
Common Stock Equivalents	12/15/97 (1)	Common Stock	1,136.2070	(2)	1,568.2070	D

Explanation of Responses:

(1)
Reinvested dividends were acquired on the following dates: 3/14/97, 6/13/97, 9/15/97, 12/15/97; 1997 deferred director's fees were credited on 5/1/97 and 12/15/97; and a transfer of previously deferred amounts occurred on 3/1/97.

(2)
Units were acquired at various times throughout the year as noted in Footnote 2. These prices range from \$50.00 to \$63.313.

SIGNATURE OF REPORTING PERSON
/S/ Alexander William H.
DATE 01/30/98