

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

OMB APPROVAL	
OMB Number:	3235-0287
Estimated average burden hours per response:	0.5

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <u>ESHLEMAN DENNIS N</u> (Last) (First) (Middle) <u>100 CRYSTAL A DRIVE</u> (Street) <u>HERSHEY PA 17033</u> (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>HERSHEY FOODS CORP [HSY]</u>	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) <u>VP, Strategy & Innovation</u>
	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) <u>02/16/2004</u>	
4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)		

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

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Common Stock	02/16/2004		A		82	A	\$77.25	100.3674	D	
Common Stock ⁽¹⁾	02/16/2004		F		82	D	\$77.25	18.3674	D	
Common Stock								3,448.97	I	401(k) Plan
Common Stock								78.5808	I	by Spouse

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)		6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date					
Deferred Performance Share Units ⁽²⁾	\$0	02/16/2004		A		1,020		(3)	(3)	Common Stock	\$0	2,845	D	

Explanation of Responses:

- The total amount of securities reported as directly owned by the reporting person in Column 5 of Table I include .0931 shares acquired on December 15, 2003 pursuant to a Hershey Foods Dividend Reinvestment Plan.
- Settlement of Performance Stock Units ("PSUs") granted on February 7, 2001, pursuant to the Hershey Foods Corporation Key Employee Incentive Plan. Settlement involved the deferral of the entire award, net of certain mandatory tax withholdings (82 shares), under the Corporation's Deferred Compensation Plan. Each deferred PSU is deemed equivalent in value to one share of the Corporation's Common Stock.
- The reporting person has elected to have these units paid out at retirement.

Remarks:

The total amount of securities reported as indirectly owned by the reporting person in Column 5 of Table I (401(k) Plan) includes 25,250 shares acquired from November 1, 2003 through December 31, 2003 pursuant to the Hershey Foods Corporation Employee Savings Stock Investment and Ownership Plan (ESSIOP). These shares were acquired at various intervals, and the closing price on December 31, 2003 was \$76.99. The exact price of each share at the date of acquisition is not readily determinable. The indirect holdings reported as held by the reporting person's spouse in Column 5 of Table I includes .3980 shares acquired on December 15, 2003 pursuant to a Hershey Foods Dividend Reinvestment Plan.

By: Bonnie S. Martin, as Attorney-in-Fact For: Dennis N. Eshleman 02/17/2004

** Signature of Reporting Person Date

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

* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4 (b)(v).

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

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

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

POWER OF ATTORNEY

NOTICE

THE PURPOSE OF THIS POWER OF ATTORNEY IS TO GIVE THE PERSON YOU DESIGNATE (YOUR "AGENT") BROAD POWERS TO HANDLE YOUR PROPERTY, WHICH MAY INCLUDE POWERS TO SELL OR OTHERWISE DISPOSE OF ANY REAL OR PERSONAL PROPERTY WITHOUT ADVANCE NOTICE TO YOU OR APPROVAL BY YOU.

THIS POWER OF ATTORNEY DOES NOT IMPOSE A DUTY ON YOUR AGENT TO EXERCISE GRANTED POWERS, BUT WHEN POWERS ARE EXERCISED, YOUR AGENT MUST USE DUE CARE TO ACT FOR YOUR BENEFIT AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS POWER OF ATTORNEY.

YOUR AGENT MAY EXERCISE THE POWERS GIVEN HERE THROUGHOUT YOUR LIFETIME, EVEN AFTER YOU BECOME INCAPACITATED, UNLESS YOU EXPRESSLY LIMIT THE DURATION OF THESE POWERS OR YOU REVOKE THESE POWERS OR A COURT ACTING ON YOUR BEHALF TERMINATES YOUR AGENT'S AUTHORITY.

YOUR AGENT MUST KEEP YOUR FUNDS SEPARATE FROM YOUR AGENT'S FUNDS.

A COURT CAN TAKE AWAY THE POWERS OF YOUR AGENT IF IT FINDS YOUR AGENT IS NOT ACTING PROPERLY.

THE POWERS AND DUTIES OF AN AGENT UNDER A POWER OF ATTORNEY ARE EXPLAINED MORE FULLY IN 20 PA.C.S. CH. 56.

IF THERE IS ANYTHING ABOUT THIS FORM THAT YOU DO NOT UNDERSTAND, YOU SHOULD ASK A LAWYER OF YOUR OWN CHOOSING TO EXPLAIN IT TO YOU.

I HAVE READ OR HAD EXPLAINED TO ME THIS NOTICE AND I UNDERSTAND ITS CONTENTS.

January 16, 2004 /s/ Dennis N. Eshleman, Principal

KNOW ALL MEN by these presents, that the undersigned, hereby constitutes and appoints Burton H. Snyder, Steven J. Holsinger and Bonnie S. Martin and each his true and lawful attorney-in-fact to:

- (1) execute for and on behalf of the undersigned Forms 3, 4 and 5 relating to transactions in securities of Hershey Foods Corporation in accordance with Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the rules thereunder;
- (2) execute for and on behalf of the undersigned Form 144 relating to transactions in securities of Hershey Foods Corporation in accordance with Rule 144 of the Securities Act of 1933 and the rules thereunder;
- (3) do and perform any and all acts for and on behalf of the undersigned which may be necessary or desirable to complete the execution of any such Forms 3, 4, 5 and 144 and the timely filing of such forms with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission and any other authority; and
- (4) take any other action of any type whatsoever in connection with the foregoing which, in the opinion of such attorney-in-fact, may be of benefit to, in the best interest of, or legally required of, the undersigned, it being understood that the documents executed by each such attorney-in-fact on behalf of the undersigned pursuant to this Power of Attorney shall be in such form and shall contain such terms and conditions as each such attorney-in-fact may approve in his/her discretion.

The undersigned hereby grants to each such attorney-in-fact full power and authority to do and perform all and every act and thing whatsoever requisite, necessary and proper to be done in the exercise of any of the rights and powers herein granted, as fully to all intents and purposes as the undersigned might or could do if personally present, with full power of substitution or revocation, hereby ratifying and confirming all that each such attorney-in-fact shall lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue of this Power of Attorney and the rights and powers herein granted. The undersigned acknowledges that the foregoing attorneys-in-fact, each in serving in such capacity at the request of the undersigned, are not assuming any of the undersigned's responsibilities to comply with Section 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and Rule 144 of the Securities Act of 1933.

This power of attorney shall remain in full force and effect until such time as the undersigned terminates it in writing.

January 16, 2004 /s/ Dennis N. Eshleman

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I, Burton H. Snyder, have read the Power of Attorney and am one of three persons identified as the agents for the principal. I hereby acknowledge that in the absence of a specific provision to the contrary in the power of attorney or in 20 Pa.C.S. when I act as agent:

I shall exercise the powers for the benefit of the principal.

I shall keep the assets of the principal separate from my assets.

I shall exercise reasonable caution and prudence.

I shall keep a full and accurate record of all actions, receipts and disbursements on behalf the principal.

January 23, 2004 /s/ Burton H. Snyder

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I, Steven J. Holsinger, have read the Power of Attorney and am one of three persons identified as the agents for the principal. I hereby acknowledge that in the absence of a specific provision to the contrary in the power of attorney or in 20 Pa.C.S. when I act as agent:

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January 23, 2004 /s/ Steven J. Holsinger

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I, Bonnie S. Martin, have read the Power of Attorney and am one of three persons identified as the agents for the principal. I hereby acknowledge that in the absence of a specific provision to the contrary in the power of attorney or in 20 Pa.C.S. when I act as agent:

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January 23, 2004 /s/ Bonnie S. Martin