

PATTERSON COMPANIES, INC.

Form 8-K

October 22, 2004

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

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 OR 15(d) of
The Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported)

October 18, 2004

PATTERSON COMPANIES, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Minnesota
(State or Other Jurisdiction)

of Incorporation)

0-20572
(Commission

File Number)

41-0886515
(IRS Employer

Identification No.)

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1031 Mendota Heights Road

St. Paul, Minnesota
(Address of principal executive offices)

55120
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code

(651) 686-1600

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- .. Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
 - .. Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
 - .. Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
 - .. Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))
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ITEM 5.02 DEPARTURE OF DIRECTORS OR PRINCIPAL OFFICERS; ELECTION OF DIRECTORS; APPOINTMENT OF PRINCIPAL OFFICERS

On October 18, 2004, Patterson Companies, Inc. issued a press release announcing the appointment of Edward L. Donnelly as president of its AbilityOne Products Corp. unit. Donnelly replaces Howard A. Schwartz, who has taken a long-term disability leave and will not be returning to the company. A copy of the press release is furnished as Exhibit 99 to this Current Report on Form 8-K and is incorporated by reference herein.

ITEM 9.01 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND EXHIBITS

(c) EXHIBITS

99 Press release of Patterson Companies, Inc., dated October 18, 2004.

SIGNATURES

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

PATTERSON COMPANIES, INC.

Date: October 22, 2004

By: /s/ R. Stephen Armstrong

R. Stephen Armstrong
Executive Vice President, Treasurer and

Chief Financial Officer
(Principal Financial Officer and

Principal Accounting Officer)

EXHIBIT INDEX

| Exhibit Number | Description |
|---------------------------|---|
| 99 | Press release of Patterson Companies, Inc., dated October 18, 2004. |