

DAVILA WILLIAM

Form 4

December 16, 2002

FORM 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b). (Print or Type Responses)	UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549 STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940	OMB APPROVAL OMB Number: 3235-0287 Expires: January 31, 2005 Estimated average burden hours per response. . . 0.5

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * Davila, William S. (Last) (First) (Middle) 1 Hormel Place (Street) Austin, MN 55912 (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Hormel Foods Corporation HRL 3. I.R.S. Identification Number of Reporting Person, if an entity (voluntary)	4. Statement for (Month/Day/Year) December 2002 5. If Amendment, Date of Original (Month/Day/Year)	6. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner <input type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify below) 7. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person <input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person
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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)
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Common Stock	12-13-02		M		2,000	A	11.9375	30,738.113*	D	
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (B)	Price			

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 Underlying Securities (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 of Derivative Securities: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Name of Indirect Beneficial Owner (Instr. 4)
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares						
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$11.9375	12-13-02		M			2,000	8-3-97	2-3-07	Common Stock	2,000	\$11.9375	0	D			
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$16.625								2-2-08				2,000	D			
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$17.59375								2-1-09				4,000	D			
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$20.3125								2-1-10				4,000	D			
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$19.29								2-1-11				4,000	D			
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$25.99								2-1-12				4,000	D			

Explanation of Responses:

*Includes 1,288 shares which are subject to certain restrictions (including possible forfeiture) applicable to restricted

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stock grants under the Nonemployee Director Stock Option and Award Plan.

/s/ James W. Cavanaugh, Power of Attorney for William S. Davila

12-13-02

** 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.

<http://www.sec.gov/divisions/corpfin/forms/form4.htm>

Last update: 09/05/2002