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CONSTELLATION BRANDS INC
Form 8-K
January 06, 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): January 6, 2004

CONSTELLATION BRANDS, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

001-08495

(Commission File Number)

Delaware

(State or other jurisdiction
of incorporation)

16-0716709

(IRS Employer
Identification No.)

300 WillowBrook Office Park, Fairport, New York 14450

(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

(585) 218-3600

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Not Applicable

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

ITEM 7. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND EXHIBITS.

(c) The following exhibit is furnished as part of this Form 8-K.

No.	Description
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99.1	Press Release of Constellation Brands, Inc. (the "Company"), dated January 6, 2004.

ITEM 9. REGULATION FD DISCLOSURE.

The information included in this Form 8-K, including the press release attached as Exhibit 99.1, is incorporated by reference into this Item 9 in satisfaction of the public disclosure requirements of Regulation FD. This information is "furnished" and not "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the

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Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section. It may only be incorporated by reference in another filing under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or the Securities Act of 1933 only if and to the extent such subsequent filing specifically references the information incorporated by reference herein.

ITEM 12. RESULTS OF OPERATIONS AND FINANCIAL CONDITION.

On January 6, 2004, the Company issued a press release (the "release") announcing its results of operations and financial condition for the third quarter ended as of November 30, 2003. A copy of the release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 and incorporated herein by reference. The projections constituting the guidance included in the release involve risks and uncertainties, the outcome of which cannot be foreseen at this time and, therefore, actual results may vary materially from these forecasts. In this regard, see the information included in the release under the caption "Forward-Looking Statements."

The information in the release and in this Item 12 is "furnished" and not "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section. Such information may only be incorporated by reference in another filing under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or the Securities Act of 1933 only if and to the extent such subsequent filing specifically references such information.

The release contains non-GAAP financial measures; in the release these are referred to as "comparable" or "pro forma" measures. For purposes of Regulation G, a non-GAAP financial measure is a numerical measure of a registrant's historical or future financial performance, financial position or cash flows that excludes amounts, or is subject to adjustments that have the effect of excluding amounts, that are included in the most directly comparable measure calculated and presented in accordance with GAAP in the statement of income, balance sheet or statement of cash flows (or equivalent statements) of the issuer; or includes amounts, or is subject to adjustments that have the effect of including amounts, that are excluded from the most directly comparable measure so calculated and presented. In this regard, GAAP refers to generally accepted accounting principles in the United States. Pursuant to the requirements of Regulation G, the Company has provided reconciliations within the release of the non-GAAP financial measures to the most directly comparable GAAP financial measures.

Comparable measures are provided because management uses this information in evaluating the results of the continuing operations of the Company and in internal goal setting. In addition, the Company believes this information provides investors a better insight on underlying business trends and results in order to evaluate year over year financial performance. As such, an increase in cost of goods sold resulting from the flow through of inventory step-up associated with the acquisition of BRL Hardy Limited (now known as Hardy Wine Company Limited) ("Hardy"), financing costs and the imputed interest charge associated with the Hardy acquisition, restructuring charges (including exiting the United States commodity concentrate product line) and the gain on change in fair value of derivative instruments are excluded from comparable results. Similarly, the Company believes that pro forma information including Hardy sales information in the year ago periods set forth in the release provides investors with a better basis for year over year comparison.

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

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undersigned, hereunto duly authorized.

CONSTELLATION BRANDS, INC.

Dated: January 6, 2004

By: /s/ Thomas S. Summer

Thomas S. Summer, Executive Vice
President and Chief Financial
Officer

INDEX TO EXHIBITS

(1) UNDERWRITING AGREEMENT

Not Applicable.

(2) PLAN OF ACQUISITION, REORGANIZATION, ARRANGEMENT, LIQUIDATION OR SUCCESSION

Not Applicable.

(4) INSTRUMENTS DEFINING THE RIGHTS OF SECURITY HOLDERS, INCLUDING INDENTURES

Not Applicable.

(16) LETTER RE CHANGE IN CERTIFYING ACCOUNTANT

Not Applicable.

(17) LETTER RE DIRECTOR RESIGNATION

Not Applicable.

(20) OTHER DOCUMENTS OR STATEMENTS TO SECURITY HOLDERS

Not Applicable.

(23) CONSENTS OF EXPERTS AND COUNSEL

Not Applicable.

(24) POWER OF ATTORNEY

Not Applicable.

(99) ADDITIONAL EXHIBITS

99.1 Press Release dated January 6, 2004.