

PATTERSON DENTAL CO  
Form 8-K  
February 19, 2004

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**UNITED STATES**  
**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
**WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549**

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**FORM 8-K**

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**CURRENT REPORT**

**PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE**  
**SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

**February 19, 2004**

**Date of report (Date of earliest event reported)**

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**PATTERSON DENTAL COMPANY**

**(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)**

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**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 55120**

(Address of Principal Executive Offices, including Zip Code)

**(651) 686-1600**

(Registrant's Telephone Number, including Area Code)

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ITEM 7. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND EXHIBITS.

(c) Exhibits.

Exhibit 99.1      Press release announcing its 2004 third quarter and nine months financial results, dated February 19, 2004.

ITEM 12. RESULTS OF OPERATIONS AND FINANCIAL CONDITION.

On February 19, 2004, the registrant publicly announced financial results for the third quarter and nine months ended January 24, 2004. For further information, please refer to the press release attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 which is incorporated by reference herein.

**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 DENTAL COMPANY

Date: February 19, 2004

By: /s/ R. Stephen Armstrong

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R. Stephen Armstrong  
Executive Vice President, Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer  
(Principal Financial Officer and Principal Accounting Officer)

**EXHIBIT INDEX**

<b>Exhibit Number</b>	<b>Description</b>
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