

HORMEL FOODS CORP /DE/

Form 8-K

September 23, 2008

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) **September 22, 2008**

HORMEL FOODS CORPORATION

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware

(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation)

1-2402

(Commission File Number)

41-0319970

(IRS Employer Identification Number)

1 Hormel Place

Austin, MN 55912

(Address of Principal Executive Office)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: **(507) 437-5611**

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)

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- o Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)

 - o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))

 - o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))
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Section 5 CORPORATE GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Item 5.02 Departure of Directors or Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers

On September 22, 2008, Hormel Foods Corporation's (the Company's) Board of Directors received notice of the retirement of Gary J. Ray. Mr. Ray is retiring as president of protein business units on December 31, 2008, but will continue to serve on the Board of Directors for one additional year following his retirement.

A press release announcing Mr. Ray's retirement, as well as other executive retirements and advancements for the Company, is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1.

Section 9 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND EXHIBITS

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits

(d) Exhibits furnished pursuant to Item 5.02

99.1 Press release, dated September 23, 2008, announcing the retirement of Gary J. Ray and other executive retirements and advancements

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.

HORMEL FOODS CORPORATION
(Registrant)

Dated: September 23, 2008

By /s/ J. H. FERAGEN
J. H. FERAGEN
Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

Dated: September 23, 2008

By /s/ R. G. GENTZLER
R. G. GENTZLER
Vice President and Treasurer