

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287
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☐ Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person NEUBAUER JOSEPH		2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol FEDERATED DEPARTMENT STORES INC /DE/ [FD]		5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director ____ Officer (give title below) <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner ____ Other (specify below)				
(Last) (First) (Middle) C/O ARAMARK CORPORATION, 1101 MARKET STREET		3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 03/31/2004						
(Street) PHILADELPHIA, PA 19107		4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)		6. 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				
(City) (State) (Zip)		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)	
Common Stock	03/31/2004		M	256	A	\$ 0	11,458 (1)	D

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

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 Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)			
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares			
Phantom Stock Units	(2)	03/31/2004		M		256		03/31/2004	03/31/2004	Common Stock	256	\$ 0	0	D
Phantom Stock Units	(2)	03/31/2004		A		277		(3)	(3)	Common Stock	277	\$ 49.79 (4)	277	D
Phantom Stock Units	(2)	03/31/2004		A		276		(5)	(5)	Common Stock	276	\$ 49.79 (4)	553	D

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
NEUBAUER JOSEPH C/O ARAMARK CORPORATION 1101 MARKET STREET PHILADELPHIA, PA 19107	X			

Signatures

/s/Padma Tatta Cariappa, as attorney-in-fact for Joseph Neubauer pursuant to a Power of Attorney		04/02/2004
Signature of Reporting Person		Date

Explanation of Responses:

* 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).

(1) Includes 2 shares received March 31, 2004 pursuant to a dividend reinvestment feature of the Issuer's directors compensation program.

(2) 1-for-1 conversion.

(3) Units are to be settled in Common Stock upon the Reporting Person's termination from the Board of Directors.

(4) The price noted is the average of the value of the stock units granted each month during the quarter for which this report is filed.

(5) Units are to be received by the Reporting Person upon termination from the Board of Directors.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.

Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.