

MERCANTILE BANKSHARES CORP  
Form 8-K  
December 10, 2003

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**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

WASHINGTON, DC 20549

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**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): December 9, 2003**

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**MERCANTILE BANKSHARES CORPORATION**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Maryland**  
(State or other jurisdiction  
of incorporation)

**0-5127**  
(Commission File  
Number)

**52-0898572**  
(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)

**Two Hopkins Plaza, P.O. Box 1477, Baltimore, Maryland 21203**

(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

**(410) 237-5900**

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

**Not Applicable**

(Former Name or Former Address, If Changed Since Last Report)

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**INFORMATION TO BE INCLUDED IN THE REPORT**

**Item 5. Other Events and Regulation FD Disclosure**

This is an optional filing made disclose the event reported below. It is not a filing required by Regulation FD.

On December 9, 2003, the registrant issued a press release announcing a quarterly cash dividend. A copy of the release is attached as Exhibit 99 and is incorporated herein by reference.

**Item 7. Financial Statements, and Exhibits.**

(c) Exhibits.

99 Press Release

**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 thereunto duly authorized.

Mercantile Bankshares Corporation

(Registrant)

Date: December 9, 2003

By:                     /s/ Terry L. Troupe                    

Terry L. Troupe

Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer

**EXHIBIT INDEX**

<u>Exhibit No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
99	Press Release