

LABORATORY CORP OF AMERICA HOLDINGS

Form 8-K

January 17, 2003

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

January 17, 2003

(Date of earliest event reported)

LABORATORY CORPORATION OF AMERICA HOLDINGS

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

DELAWARE	1-11353	13-3757370
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(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)	(Commission File Number)	(IRS Employer Identification Number)

358 SOUTH MAIN STREET, BURLINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA 27215

(Address of principal executive offices)

336-229-1127

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

ITEM 5. OTHER EVENTS

Laboratory Corporation of America -Registered Trademark-Holdings (LabCorp -Registered Trademark-) (NYSE:LH) announced that it has completed its previously announced acquisition of DIANON Systems Inc., a leading U.S. provider of anatomic pathology and oncology testing services. LabCorp acquired all of the outstanding shares of DIANON, financing the transaction by using a \$350 million bridge loan and borrowings of \$248.4 million under its \$350 million revolver. LabCorp anticipates that the acquisition will be accretive to LabCorp's 2003 diluted earnings per share by approximately \$0.05 and expects to realize an estimated \$35 million in annual cost savings synergies by year-end 2005.

ITEM 7. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, PRO FORMA FINANCIAL

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INFORMATION AND EXHIBITS

(c) Exhibit

20 Press release of the Company dated January 17, 2003.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

LABORATORY CORPORATION OF AMERICA HOLDINGS

(Registrant)

By:/s/ BRADFORD T. SMITH

Bradford T. Smith
Executive Vice President
and Secretary

Date: January 17, 2003