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MIDDLEBY CORP  
Form 8-K  
October 31, 2003

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): October 30, 2003

THE MIDDLEBY CORPORATION  
(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

Commission File No. 1-9973

Delaware  
(State or Other Jurisdiction of  
Incorporation or Organization)

36-3352497  
(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

1400 Toastmaster Drive, Elgin, Illinois  
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

60120  
(Zip Code)

Registrant's Telephone No., including Area Code (847) 741-3300

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Item 5. Other Events

On October 30, 2003, The Middleby Corporation issued a press release announcing the payment of a \$0.25 special dividend.

Item 7. Financial Statements and Exhibits

(c) Exhibits.

99.1 Press release dated October 30, 2003 of The Middleby Corporation.

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SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the

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Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

THE MIDDLEBY CORPORATION

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(Registrant)

Date October 30, 2003

By: /s/ Timothy J. Fitzgerald

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Timothy J. Fitzgerald  
Vice President and  
Chief Financial Officer