#### SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 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)  ${\tt June~30,~2004}$ 

# UNIFIRST CORPORATION

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

Massachusetts 1-8504 04-2103460

(State or Other Jurisdiction (Commission File Number) (IRS Employer of Incorporation) Identification No.)

68 Jonspin Road, Wilmington, Massachusetts 01887
-----(Address of Principal Executive Offices) (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (978) 658-8888

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Item 7. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

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(c) Exhibits

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EXHIBIT NO. DESCRIPTION

99.1 Press release dated June 30, 2004

Item 12. Results of Operations and Financial Condition.

Such information, including the exhibits attached hereto, shall not be deemed filed for any purpose, including for purposes of, Section 18 of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act") or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that Section, nor shall it be deemed incorporated by reference in any filing under the Securities Act of 1933 on the Exchange Act, regardless of any general incorporation language in such filing.

On June 30, 2004, UniFirst Corporation issued a press release ("Press Release") announcing financial results for the quarter ended May 29, 2004. A copy of the Press Release is attached as Exhibit 99.1 to this Current Report and is incorporated herein by reference.

#### SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

### UNIFIRST CORPORATION

Date: June 30, 2004 By: /s/ Ronald D. Croatti

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Name: Ronald D. Croatti

Title: Chairman of the Board, Chief Executive Officer and President

By: /s/ John B. Bartlett

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Name: John B. Bartlett

Title: Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

## EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit No. Description

99.1 Press release of the Company dated June 30, 2004

UNIFIRST CORPORATION
68 Jonspin Road
Wilmington, MA 01887-1086
Telephone 978-658-8888 Ext 520
Facsimile 978-988-0659

NEWS RELEASE

contact: John B. Bartlett
 Senior Vice President
 jbartlett@unifirst.com

[UNIFIRST CORPORATION LOGO]

UNIFIRST ANNOUNCES RECORD FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THIRD QUARTER AND NINE MONTHS OF FISCAL 2004

Wilmington, MA (June 30, 2004) -- UniFirst Corporation (NYSE: UNF) today announced record revenues and earnings for the third quarter and nine months of fiscal 2004, which ended May 29, 2004.

Revenues for the third quarter of fiscal 2004 were \$183.0 million, the highest in the Company's 68 year history, a 19.1 percent increase from \$153.7 million in the same period a year ago. Acquisitions, primarily Textilease, accounted for 13.8 percent of the revenue growth for the quarter. Third quarter net income was a record \$9.9 million, or \$0.52 per basic share, a 3.5 percent increase from last year's \$9.6 million, or \$0.50 per basic share.

For the first thirty-nine weeks of fiscal 2004, revenues were a record \$541.3 million, a 20.5 percent increase from \$449.3 million for the same period of fiscal 2003. Acquisitions, again primarily Textilease, accounted for 14.8 percent of this revenue growth. Income before cumulative effect of accounting change was \$26.1 million, or \$1.36 per basic share, an 18.2 percent increase from last year's \$22.0 million, or \$1.15 per basic share. In the first quarter of fiscal 2003 the Company recorded an expense of \$2.2 million, net of tax, as a result of implementing SFAS 143 regarding long lived assets. Net income for the first nine months of fiscal 2004 was \$26.1 million, or \$1.36 per basic share, a 31.6 percent increase from last year's \$19.8 million, or \$1.03 per basic share.

During the third quarter the Company decided to close its Richmond plant and transfer this business to the Textilease plant in Richmond. As a result of this decision the Company recorded a pre-tax charge to earnings of approximately \$600 thousand to reduce the value of the machinery and equipment in its Richmond plant to its net realizable value. During the quarter the Company also completed the sale of approximately \$5.0 million in annual sales of linen business acquired from Textilease. There was no P&L impact from this sale, but it will have a slight negative impact on revenues in future periods.

"We're pleased that despite a prolonged period of market softness that has hurt sales productivity, we've been able to generate the best results in our history", said Ronald D. Croatti, UniFirst's Chief Executive Officer.

"We look forward to reporting solid numbers in the quarters ahead, as the economic recovery progresses."  $\,$ 

The Company will hold a conference call today at 4:00 PM (EST) to discuss its quarterly financial results, business highlights and outlook. A simultaneous live webcast of the call will be available over the Internet, and replays of the webcast will be available until July 31, 2004. The webcast can be accessed at www.unifirst.com.

UniFirst is one of the largest providers of workplace uniforms and protective clothing in North America. The Company employs over 9,000 team partners who serve more than 175,000 customer locations in 46 states, Canada and Europe from 170 manufacturing, distribution and customer service facilities.

The Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 provides a safe harbor for certain forward-looking statements. This public announcement may contain forward-looking statements that reflect the Company's current views with respect to future events and financial performance. These forward-looking statements are subject to certain risks and uncertainties. The words "anticipate" and "should,"

and other expressions that indicate future events and trends identify forward-looking statements. Actual future results may differ materially from those anticipated depending on a variety of factors, including, but not limited to, performance of acquisitions; economic and business changes; fluctuations in the cost of materials, fuel and labor; economic and other developments associated with the on-going war on terrorism; strikes and unemployment levels; demand and price for the Company's products and services; improvement in under performing rental operations; and the outcome of pending and future litigation and environmental matters.

[Tables follow]

# UNIFIRST CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME (unaudited)

	Thirty-nine	Thirty-nine	Thirteen	Thirteen
	weeks ended	weeks ended	weeks ended	weeks ended
(In thousands, except per share data)	May 29,	May 31,	May 29,	May 31,
	2004	2003	2004	2003
_				
Revenues	\$ 541,290	\$ 449,294	\$ 182,985	\$ 153,690
Costs and expenses:				
Operating costs	347,024	288,182	116,223	97,041
Selling and administrative expenses	110,611	93,638	36,750	30,088
Depreciation and amortization	34,389	29,906	11,662	10,218
	492,024	411,726	164,635	137,347
Income from operations	49,266	37,568	18,350	16,343
Other expense (income):	0.10=	2 40 5	0.00-	
Interest expense	9,135 (785)	3,496	2,891 (154)	1,304 (279)
Interest income Interest rate swap income	(1,454)	(1,112) (666)	(554)	(306)
Interest late Swap Income				
	6,896	1,718	2,183	719
Income before income taxes	42,370	35,850	16,167	15,624
Provision for income taxes	16,312	13,802	6,224	6,015
Income before cumulative effect of accounting change	26,058	22,048	9,943	9,609
Cumulative effect of accounting change (net of income tax benefit of \$1,404 in fiscal 2003)		2,242		
Net income	\$ 26,058	\$ 19,806	\$ 9,943	\$ 9,609
Weighted average number of shares outstanding:				
basic	19,191	19,185	19,200	19,168
diluted	19,253	19,220	19,271	19,175
Income per share basic:				
Before cumulative effect of accounting change Cumulative effect of accounting change	\$ 1.36	\$ 1.15 (0.12)	\$ 0.52	\$ 0.50
Net income	\$ 1.36	\$ 1.03	\$ 0.52	\$ 0.50
Income per share diluted: Before cumulative effect of accounting change	\$ 1.35	\$ 1.15	\$ 0.52	\$ 0.50
Cumulative effect of accounting change	÷ 1.33	(0.12)	9 0.52	Ş 0.50 
Net income	\$ 1.35	\$ 1.03	\$ 0.52	\$ 0.50

(In thousands)	May 29, 2004	August 30, 2003 (a)	May 31, 2003
Assets			
Current assets:			
Cash	\$ 5,673	\$ 6,053	\$ 7,389
Receivables	76,267	57,941	63,984
Inventories	35,063	25,355	27,052
Rental merchandise in service	63,349	60,490	59,939
Prepaid taxes	7,154	5,591	2,156
Prepaid expenses	1,024	407	386
Total current assets	188,530	155,837	160,906
Property and equipment:			
Land, buildings and leasehold improvements	238,281	221,487	218,576
Machinery and equipment	258,702	238,820	243,599
Motor vehicles	70,064	66,081	65,593
	567,047	526,388	527,768
Less - accumulated depreciation	275,347	251,806	254,668
	291,700	274,582	273,100
Goodwill	177,363	62,608	62,640
Intangible assets, net	59,687	20,524	20,275
Other assets	2,319	1,036	639
	\$ 719,599	\$ 514,587	\$ 517,560
Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity			
Current liabilities:			
Current maturities of long-term obligations	\$ 1,261	\$ 2,493	\$ 2,525
Notes payable		104	
Accounts payable	40,369	30,678	31,476
Accrued liabilities	71,394	53,670	57,406
Deferred income taxes	2,556		651
Total current liabilities	115,580	86,945	92,058
Long-term obligations, net of current maturities	202,582	67,319	72,725
Deferred income taxes	41,394	24,943	23,300
Shareholders' equity:			
Common stock	1,082	1,060	1,056
Class B common stock	998	1,018	1,021
Treasury stock	(26,005)	(26,005)	(26,005)
Capital surplus	13,019	12,693	12,548
Retained earnings	372,168	348,043	341,472
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(1,219)	(1,429)	(615)
Total shareholders' equity			
	360,043	335,380	329,477

<sup>(</sup>a) Condensed from audited financial statements