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MERCANTILE BANKSHARES CORP  
Form 8-K  
October 18, 2002

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 17, 2002  
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Mercantile Bankshares Corporation  
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(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Maryland ----- (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)	0-5127 ----- (Commission File Number)	52-0898572 ----- (IRS Employer Identification No.)
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Two Hopkins Plaza, P.O. Box 1477, Baltimore, MD 21203  
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(Address of principal executive office) (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code, (410) 237-5900  
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Item 5. Other Events and Regulation FD Disclosure.

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

On October 17, 2002, the registrant issued a press release announcing  
its earnings for the quarter ended September 30, 2002. A copy of the release is  
attached as Exhibit 20 and is incorporated herein by reference.

Item 7. Financial Statements and Exhibits

Exhibits

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20 Press release dated October 17, 2002.

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: October 17, 2002

By: /s/ Terry L. Troupe

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Terry L. Troupe  
Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer