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

March 23, 2004

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported)

DURECT CORPORATION

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware (State or other jurisdiction of

000-31615 (Commission 94-3297098 (I.R.S. Identification No.)

Employer incorporation or organization)

File Number)

10240 Bubb Road

Cupertino, CA 95014

 $(Address\ of\ principal\ executive\ offices)\ (Zip\ code)$

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(408) 777-1417

(Registrant s telephone number, including area code)

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

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Item 5 and Item 12. Other Events and Required FD Disclosure; Results of Operation and Financial Condition.

On March 23, 2004, DURECT Corporation, a Delaware corporation (<u>DUREC</u>T), issued a press release announcing the appointment of Michael D. Casey to its Board of Directors.

A copy of DURECT s press release announcing the appointment of Michael D. Casey to its Board of Directors is attached as Exhibit 99.1 hereto and incorporated by reference herein.

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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 hereunto duly authorized.

Date: March 23, 2004

DURECT Corporation

By: /s/ James E. Brown

James E. Brown

President and Chief Executive Officer

DURECT CORPORATION

INDEX TO EXHIBITS

Exhibit Number	Description
99.1	Press Release of DURECT Corporation dated March 23, 2004.