

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

AUGUST 5, 1998

(Date of earliest event reported)

LABORATORY CORPORATION OF AMERICA HOLDINGS

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

DELAWARE	1-11353	13-3757370
-----	-----	-----
(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

On August 5, 1998, Laboratory Corporation of America Holdings ("the Company") issued a press release announcing that its forensic crime laboratory located at the Company's Center for Molecular Biology and Pathology in Research Triangle Park, North Carolina, has been accredited by the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors, Laboratory Accreditation Board (ASCLD/LAB) in the category of DNA testing. Under the Crime Laboratory Accreditation Program managed by the ASCLD/LAB, a crime laboratory undergoes a comprehensive and in-depth inspection to demonstrate that its management, operations, employees, procedures and instruments, physical plant and security, and personnel safety procedures meet stringent quality standards.

ITEM 7. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, PRO FORMA FINANCIAL INFORMATION AND EXHIBITS

- (c) Exhibit
20 Press release of the Company dated August 5, 1998.

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,
General Counsel, Secretary
and Compliance Officer

Date: August 17, 1998

###

Laboratory Corporation of America-Registered Trademark- Holdings
358 South Main Street
Burlington, NC 27215
Telephone: 336-584-5171

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Pamela Sherry
336-584-5171, Ext. 4855
SHAREHOLDER DIRECT: 800-LAB-0401
www.labcorp.com

LABCORP-REGISTERED TRADEMARK-'S FORENSIC CRIME LABORATORY RECEIVES
PRESTIGIOUS DNA TESTING ACCREDITATION

BURLINGTON, NC, AUGUST 5, 1998 - Laboratory Corporation of America-Registered Trademark- Holdings (LabCorp-Registered Trademark-) (NYSE: LH) today announced that its forensic crime laboratory located at LabCorp's Center for Molecular Biology and Pathology in Research Triangle Park, North Carolina, has been accredited by the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors, Laboratory Accreditation Board (ASCLD/LAB) in the category of DNA testing. Under the Crime Laboratory Accreditation Program managed by the ASCLD/LAB, a crime laboratory undergoes a comprehensive and in-depth inspection to demonstrate that its management, operations, employees, procedures and instruments, physical plant and security, and personnel safety procedures meet stringent quality standards.

"Earning this prestigious accreditation is a significant milestone for LabCorp," said Dr. Marcia Eisenberg, Director of LabCorp's Forensic Identity Testing laboratory. "Our forensic crime laboratory is differentiated by the premier quality of our people, our processes, and our knowledge of forensic science. We are truly honored to have been granted such a distinguished accreditation." LabCorp is one of 174 ASCLD accredited crime laboratories worldwide, and is one of only three private crime laboratories holding the accreditation.

ASCLD was established to improve the quality of laboratory services provided to the criminal justice system. It also develops criteria which can be used by a laboratory to assess its level of performance and strengthen its operation, provides an independent, impartial, and objective system by which laboratories can benefit from a total operational review, and offers a means of identifying those laboratories which have demonstrated that they meet established standards. Meeting 100 percent of the standards deemed "essential" is required for the accreditation. Essential standards directly and fundamentally affect the work product of the laboratory or the integrity of the physical evidence. Accreditation is granted for a period of five years provided that a laboratory continues to meet the standards during that period.

Laboratory Corporation of America-Registered Trademark- Holdings (LabCorp-Registered Trademark-) is a national clinical laboratory organization with annual revenues of \$1.5 billion in 1997. The Company operates primary testing facilities nationally, offering more than 1,700 different clinical assays, from routine blood analyses to more sophisticated technologies. LabCorp performs diagnostic tests for physicians, managed-care organizations, hospitals, clinics, long-term care facilities, industrial companies and other clinical laboratories.
