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): February 28, 2000

ECHOSTAR COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION (Exact name of registrant as specified in charter)

| NEVADA | 0-26176 | 88-0336997 |
|------------------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| (State or other jurisdiction | (Commission | (IRS Employer |
| of incorporation) | File Number) | Identification No.) |

5701 S. SANTA FE DRIVE LITTLETON, COLORADO 80120 (Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (303) 723-1000

ITEM 5. OTHER EVENTS

EchoStar Communications Corporation ("EchoStar") announced on February 28, 2000 that its Board of Directors has approved a 2-for-1 split of its common stock. Stockholders of record at the close of business on March 10, 2000 will be entitled to one additional share of common stock for each share they own on that date. New shares will be mailed or delivered on or about March 22, 2000, by the Company's transfer agent.

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 hereunto duly authorized.

ECHOSTAR COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION

Dated: February 28, 2000

By: /s/ DAVID MOSKOWITZ

David Moskowitz, Senior Vice President, General Counsel,Secretary, and Director EXHIBITS INDEX

Exhibit Description 99.1 Press Release, dated February 28, 200

9.1 Press Release, dated February 28, 2000, issued by EchoStar announcing 2-for-1 stock split

ECHOSTAR COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION ANNOUNCES 2-FOR 1 STOCK SPLIT

Littleton, Colo., Feb. 28, 2000 - EchoStar Communications Corporation (NASDAQ: DISH, DISHP) today announced that its Board of Directors has approved a 2-for-1 split of its common stock. Stockholders of record at the close of business on March 10, 2000, will be entitled to one additional share of common stock for each share they own on that date. New shares will be mailed or delivered on or about the payable date, March 22, 2000, by the Company's transfer agent, American Securities Transfer & Trust, Inc. The ex-dividend date, the date on which the change in the stock price will be reflected on the NASDAQ market, will be on or about March 23, 2000. The stock split will increase the number of shares of Class A common stock outstanding from approximately 113.9 million shares to approximately 227.9 million shares and Class B common stock outstanding from approximately 119.2 million shares to approximately 238.4 million shares.