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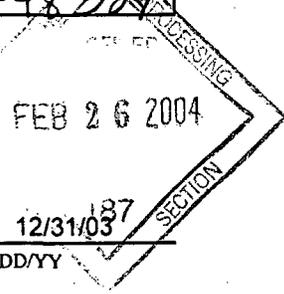


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UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

ANNUAL AUDITED REPORT  
FORM X-17A-5  
PART III

FACING PAGE  
Information Required of Brokers and Dealers Pursuant to Section 17 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and Rule 17a-5 Thereunder



REPORT FOR THE PERIOD BEGINNING 01/01/03 AND ENDING 12/31/03  
MM/DD/YY MM/DD/YY

**A. REGISTRANT IDENTIFICATION**

NAME OF BROKER-DEALER:  
Olstein & Associates, L.P.

ADDRESS OF PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS: (Do not use P.O. Box No.)  
4 Manhattanville Road  
(No. and Street)

Purchase NY 10577  
(City) (State) (Zip Code)

OFFICIAL USE ONLY
FIRM ID. NO.

NAME AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF PERSON TO CONTACT IN REGARD TO THIS REPORT  
Robert A. Olstein 914-701-7584  
(Area Code - Telephone No.)

**B. ACCOUNTANT IDENTIFICATION**

INDEPENDENT PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT whose opinion is contained in this Report\*  
J.H.Cohn LLP  
(Name -- if individual, state last, first, middle name)

75 Eisenhower Parkway Roseland NJ 07068  
(Address) (City) (State) (Zip Code)

- CHECK ONE:
- Certified Public Accountant
  - Public Accountant
  - Accountant not resident in United States or any of its possessions

**PROCESSED**  
MAR 19 2004  
THOMSON FINANCIAL

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\*Claims for exemption from the requirement that the annual report be covered by the opinion of an independent public accountant must be supported by a statement of facts and circumstances relied on as the basis for the exemption. See section 240.17a-5(e)(2).

SEC 1410 (06-02)

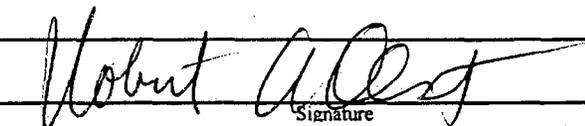
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1063-18

OATH OR AFFIRMATION

I, Robert A. Olstein, swear (or affirm) that, to the best of my knowledge and belief the accompanying financial statement and supporting schedules pertaining to the firm of Olstein & Associates, L.P., as of December 31, 20 03, are true and correct. I further swear (or affirm) that neither the company nor any partner, proprietor, principal officer or director has any proprietary interest in any account classified solely as that of a customer, except as follows:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

  
Signature  
\_\_\_\_\_  
President  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

  
Notary Public  
MICHAEL LUPER  
Notary Public, State of New York  
No. 5034654  
Qualified in Westchester County  
Commission Expires October 17, 2006

This report\*\* contains (check all applicable boxes):

- (a) Facing page.
- (b) Statement of Financial Condition.
- (c) Statement of Income (Loss).
- (d) Statement of Cash Flows.
- (e) Statement of Changes in Stockholders' Equity or Partners' or Sole Proprietor's Capital.
- (f) Statement of Changes in Liabilities Subordinated to Claims of Creditors.
- (g) Computation of Net Capital.
- (h) Computation for Determination of Reserve Requirements Pursuant to Rule 15c3-3.
- (i) Information Relating to the Possession or control Requirements Under Rule 15c3-3.
- (j) A Reconciliation, including appropriate explanation, of the Computation of Net Capital Under Rule 15c3-1 and the Computation for Determination of the Reserve Requirements Under Exhibit A of Rule 15c3-3.
- (k) A Reconciliation between the audited and unaudited Statements of Financial Condition with respect to methods of consolidation.
- (l) An Oath or Affirmation.
- (m) A copy of the SIPC Supplemental Report.
- (n) A report describing any material inadequacies found to exist or found to have existed since the date of the previous audit.
- (o) Independent auditor's report on internal accounting control.
- (p) Schedule of segregation requirements and funds in segregation—customers' regulated commodity futures account pursuant to Rule 171-5.

\*\*For conditions of confidential treatment of certain portions of this filing, see section 240.17a-5(e)(3).

**Olstein & Associates, L.P.**  
**(A Limited Partnership)**

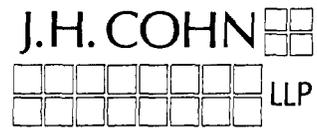
**Report on Statement of  
Financial Condition**

**December 31, 2003**

**OLSTEIN & ASSOCIATES, L.P.**

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**Report of Independent Public Accountants**

To the Partners  
Olstein & Associates, L.P.

We have audited the accompanying statement of financial condition of Olstein & Associates, L.P. (A Limited Partnership) as of December 31, 2003. This financial statement is the responsibility of the Partnership's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on this financial statement based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the statement of financial condition is free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statement. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the statement of financial condition referred to above presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Olstein & Associates, L.P. as of December 31, 2003, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

*J.H. Cohn* LLP

Roseland, New Jersey  
January 30, 2004

**OLSTEIN & ASSOCIATES, L.P.**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL CONDITION**  
**DECEMBER 31, 2003**

**ASSETS**

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 5,974,154
Receivable from clearing broker	10,931
Receivable from The Olstein Funds, net	4,973,240
Advisory fees receivable	51,837
Equipment and improvements, net of accumulated depreciation and amortization of \$306,296	605,611
Other assets	<u>134,545</u>
 Total	 <u>\$11,750,318</u>

**LIABILITIES AND PARTNERS' CAPITAL**

Liabilities:	
Accrued expenses	\$ 2,036,493
Distributions payable to limited partners	<u>2,845,863</u>
Total liabilities	4,882,356
 Commitments and contingencies	
 Partners' capital	 <u>6,867,962</u>
 Total	 <u>\$11,750,318</u>

See Notes to Statement of Financial Condition.

## OLSTEIN & ASSOCIATES, L.P.

### NOTES TO STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL CONDITION

#### **Note 1 - Organization:**

Olstein & Associates, L.P. (the "Partnership") is a New York limited partnership that was formed on June 13, 1994. Effective September 18, 1995, the Partnership commenced operations as a registered broker-dealer with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") and became a member of the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc.

The Partnership has an agreement with another broker-dealer (the "clearing broker") to clear transactions, carry customers' accounts on a fully disclosed basis and perform record keeping functions and, consequently, operates under the exemptive provisions of SEC rule 15c3-3k(2)(ii).

In addition, the Partnership is a registered investment advisor and has organized a Delaware Investment Trust, known as The Olstein Funds (the "Funds"), as an open-end investment company or "mutual fund" that is intended to have a series of investment portfolios. The Partnership will be the manager of, and the advisor to, the Funds. As of December 31, 2003, the Partnership was managing the first of the Funds' portfolios, an equity fund known as The Olstein Financial Alert Fund (the "Alert Fund"). The Partnership also provides investment advisory services to other parties.

The term of the Partnership expires on May 25, 2094 unless the general partner elects to extend the term.

#### **Note 2 - Significant accounting policies:**

##### **Cash equivalents:**

Cash equivalents are highly liquid investments with a maturity of three months or less when acquired.

##### **Equipment and improvements:**

Equipment and improvements are stated at cost. Equipment is depreciated using accelerated methods over estimated useful lives of three to five years. Improvements are amortized using the straight-line method over the life of the lease.

##### **Advertising costs:**

The Partnership expenses the cost of advertising and marketing as incurred.

##### **Income taxes:**

The Partnership is not subject to income taxes; instead, its income or loss is allocated to its partners for inclusion in their individual income tax returns.

**OLSTEIN & ASSOCIATES, L.P.**

**NOTES TO STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL CONDITION**

**Note 2 - Significant accounting policies (concluded):**

**Use of estimates:**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results could differ from these estimates.

**Note 3 - Related party transactions:**

**Transactions with the Alert Fund:**

Pursuant to the Investment Management Agreement between the Partnership and the Alert Fund, the Partnership will receive annual investment management fees for management and investment advisory services equal to 1% of the daily average net assets of the Alert Fund, payable monthly, subject to statutory limitations, if any. This agreement may be canceled by either party upon sixty days' written notice.

Pursuant to the Distribution Plan adopted by the Funds and rule 12b-1 under the Investment Company Act of 1940, the Partnership will receive annual fees of up to 1% of the daily average net assets of the Alert Fund, payable monthly, for expenses incurred in the promotion and distribution of the shares of the Alert Fund and for maintaining shareholder accounts. This agreement may also be canceled by either party upon sixty days' written notice.

The Partnership's net receivable from the Funds as of December 31, 2003 was comprised of amounts due or payable for the following:

Management and investment advisory fees	\$1,476,380
Rule 12b-1 fees	3,498,438
Miscellaneous fees	<u>(1,578)</u>
Total	<u>\$4,973,240</u>

**Transactions with partners:**

Pursuant to the Agreement of Limited Partnership (the "Partnership Agreement"), the general partner will be paid fees of \$25,000 per month for office and administrative expenses.

**OLSTEIN & ASSOCIATES, L.P.**

**NOTES TO STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL CONDITION**

**Note 4 - Partners' capital and distributions:**

At the end of each fiscal year, a percentage of the Partnership's profits is allocated to all of the limited partners which is derived from a formula based on the net advisory fees earned by the Partnership from the Alert Fund. Each limited partner receives a share of the Partnership's profits allocated to all of the limited partners in the proportion that the cumulative capital contribution of that limited partner bears to the cumulative total of capital contributions made by all the limited partners as of the end of the year.

Subject to certain restrictions as provided in the Partnership Agreement, each limited partner's share of the Partnership's profits, determined as explained above, will be distributed to the partner annually on or before March 31 of the following year. All remaining profits are allocated to the general partner.

All losses of the Partnership are allocated first to the general partner to the extent of its capital account and then proportionately to the limited partners to the extent of their capital accounts, with all remaining losses allocated to the general partner.

The Partnership Agreement provides the limited partners with an option to "put" their interest in the Partnership to the general partner at various prices as defined in the Partnership Agreement. Partial redemptions are not permitted. The general partner may make capital withdrawals at any time provided that the general partner's remaining capital exceeds \$125,000. As of December 31, 2003, no put options had been exercised.

Notwithstanding the above, no capital of any partner may be withdrawn, redeemed or distributed if, after giving effect thereto, the Partnership does not meet the minimum capital requirements provided for by the Uniform Net Capital Rule under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

**Note 5 - Net capital requirement:**

The Partnership is subject to the SEC Uniform Net Capital rule (rule 15c3-1), which requires the maintenance of minimum net capital and requires that the ratio of aggregate indebtedness to net capital, both as defined, shall not exceed 15 to 1. At December 31, 2003, the Partnership had net capital of \$4,044,125, which was \$3,718,618 in excess of its required net capital of \$325,507. The Partnership's net capital ratio was 1.21 to 1.

## OLSTEIN & ASSOCIATES, L.P.

### NOTES TO STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL CONDITION

#### **Note 6 - Financial instruments with off-balance-sheet risk and concentration of credit risk:**

The Partnership's customer securities activities are transacted on either a cash or margin basis. In margin transactions, the Partnership's clearing broker extends credit to the customer, subject to various regulatory and internal margin requirements, collateralized by cash and securities in the customer's account. As a result of guaranteeing customer margin balances carried by the clearing broker, the Partnership may be exposed to off-balance-sheet risk in the event margin requirements are not sufficient to fully cover losses which the customer may incur. Margin accounts guaranteed by the Partnership at December 31, 2003 were not material.

Additionally, the Partnership is exposed to off-balance-sheet risk of loss on transactions during the period from the trade date to the settlement date, which is generally three business days. If the customer fails to satisfy its contractual obligations to the clearing broker, the Partnership may have to purchase or sell financial instruments at prevailing market prices in order to fulfill the customer's obligations. Settlement of these transactions is not expected to have a material effect on the Partnership's financial position.

The Partnership seeks to control the risks associated with its customer activities by requiring customers to maintain margin collateral in compliance with various regulatory and clearing broker guidelines. The Partnership monitors required margin levels daily and, pursuant to such guidelines, requires the customers to deposit additional collateral, or to reduce positions, when necessary.

The Partnership maintains cash and other deposits with banks and brokers. At times, such deposits exceed applicable insurance limits. At December 31, 2003, the Partnership had cash deposits and cash equivalent balances that exceeded applicable insurance limits by approximately \$5,899,000. The Partnership reduces its exposure to credit risk by maintaining such deposits with high quality financial institutions.

#### **Note 7 - Commitments:**

The Partnership leases the premises in which it conducts its operations under a noncancelable operating lease that expires in May 2012. The lease requires, among other things, the payment of minimum annual rentals and certain of the real estate taxes and insurance, maintenance and other operating expenses related to the properties. Minimum annual rental payments are \$270,000 in 2004, 2005 and 2006, \$294,000 in 2007, \$312,000 in 2008 and \$1,066,000 thereafter. The Partnership has the option to renew the lease for an additional five-year period.

**OLSTEIN & ASSOCIATES, L.P.**

**NOTES TO STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL CONDITION**

**Note 7 - Commitments (concluded):**

The Partnership also leases certain equipment under noncancelable operating leases that expire at various dates through October 2007. Future minimum lease payments under the noncancelable operating leases for equipment in years subsequent to December 31, 2003 are not material.

**Note 8 - Profit sharing plan:**

The Partnership sponsors a defined contribution 401(k) pension and profit sharing plan whereby its eligible employees can defer a portion of their income for income tax purposes through contributions to the plan. The Partnership is required to make contributions to the plan based primarily on specified percentages of the contributions made by the employees. The Partnership may make additional contributions to the plan on a discretionary basis.