

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: November 14, 1996

Date of earliest event reported: November 1, 1996

ASHLAND INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Kentucky

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)

1-2918

(Commission File Number)

61--0122250

(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

1000 Ashland Drive, Russell, Kentucky
(Address of principal executive offices)

41169
(Zip Code)

P.O. Box 391, Ashland, Kentucky
(Mailing Address)

41114
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code (606) 329-3333

Item 5. Other Events

On November 1, 1996, the Registrant issued a press release announcing that Providence Capital, Inc., a small New York-based financial firm and a stockholder of record of 100 Ashland Inc. (NYSE:ASH) common shares, has given formal notice to Ashland that they have nominated three individuals for election to Ashland's board of directors at the 1997 Annual Shareholders Meeting, to be held on January 30, 1997.

The foregoing summary of the attached press release is qualified in its entirety by the complete text of such document, a copy of which is attached hereto.

Item 7. Financial Statements and Exhibits

(c) Exhibits
99 Press Release

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.

ASHLAND INC.

(Registrant)

Date: November 14, 1996

/s/ James G. Stephenson

Name: James G. Stephenson
Title: Vice President-Law

EXHIBIT INDEX

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Press Release of the Registrant
dated November 1, 1996

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 1, 1996

Ashland Inc. receives board nominations

Ashland, Ky. -- Providence Capital, Inc., a New York-based financial firm and a stockholder of record of 100 Ashland Inc. (NYSE:ASH) common shares, has given formal notice to Ashland that they have nominated three individuals for election to Ashland's board of directors at the 1997 annual shareholders meeting, to be held on Jan. 30, 1997.

Providence Capital identified the nominees as: Lawrence G. Schafran, chairman of the executive committee of the Dart Group Corporation, Landover, Md.; Kenneth A. Bouldin, president and chief executive officer of Economic Technology Solutions, Inc., Nashville, Tenn.; and Robert J. Slater, president, Jackson Consulting, Inc., New Canaan, Conn.

Ashland Inc. is a large energy and chemical company engaged in petroleum refining and marketing; coal; highway construction; and oil and gas exploration and production. Ashland Chemical is the largest distributor of chemicals and plastics in North America and a leading supplier of specialty chemicals worldwide. Ashland's major consumer brands include Valvoline-R- motor oils, Zerex-R- antifreeze and Pyroil-R- automotive chemicals. As one of the largest independent refiners in the nation, Ashland is also a leading regional gasoline marketer, with products marketed under the SuperAmerica-R- and Ashland-R- brand names.

Ashland's Internet address is <http://www.ashland.com>