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DENNYS CORP
Form 8-A12G/A
January 12, 2005

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

FORM 8-A/A

AMENDMENT NO. 1

FOR REGISTRATION OF CERTAIN CLASSED OF SECURITIES PURSUANT TO
SECTION 12(b) OR 12(g) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

DENNY'S CORPORATION

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware

13-3487402

(State of Incorporation or Organization)

(IRS Employer Identification No.)

203 East Main Street, Spartanburg, SC

29319-0001

(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

(Zip Code)

If this form relates to the registration of a class of securities pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Exchange Act and is effective pursuant to General Instruction A.(c), please check the following box. []

If this form relates to the registration of a class of securities pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Exchange Act and is effective pursuant to General Instruction A.(d), please check the following box. [X]

Securities Act registration statement file number to which this form relates:
Not applicable.

Securities to be registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act: None.

Securities to be registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act:

Preferred Stock Purchase Rights

(Title of Class)

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EXPLANATORY NOTE: This Amendment to Form 8-A is being filed to reflect the Amended and Restated Rights Agreement of the Registrant. The following Item 1 restates in its entirety the description of the Rights (as defined below) and the Amended and Restated Rights Agreement is filed herewith as an exhibit in Item 2.

Item 1. DESCRIPTION OF SECURITIES TO BE REGISTERED.

On December 14, 1998, the Board of Directors of Denny's Corporation (formerly known as Advantica Restaurant Group, Inc.) (the "Corporation") declared a dividend distribution of one preferred share purchase right (a "Right") for each outstanding share of Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share (the "Common Shares"), of the Corporation. The dividend was payable to the stockholders of record on December 30, 1998 (the "Record Date"), and with respect to Common Shares issued thereafter, until the Distribution Date (as defined below) and, in certain circumstances, with respect to Common Shares issued after the Distribution Date. As of January 5, 2005, the number of outstanding Common Shares was 89,987,134. Except as set forth below, each Right, when it becomes exercisable, entitles the registered holder to purchase from the Corporation one one-thousandth of a share of Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock, \$0.10 par value (the "Preferred Shares"), of the Corporation at a price of \$42.50 per one-thousandth of a Preferred Share (the "Purchase Price"), subject to adjustment after December 15, 1998. The description and terms of the Rights as currently in effect are set forth in an Amended and Restated Rights Agreement (the "Rights Agreement") between the Corporation and Continental Stock Transfer & Trust Company, as Rights Agent (the "Rights Agent"), dated as of January 5, 2005.

Initially, the Rights attached to all certificates representing Common Shares then outstanding, and no separate Right Certificates were distributed. The Rights will separate from the Common Shares upon the earliest to occur of (i) a person or group of affiliated or associated persons having acquired beneficial ownership of 15% or more of the outstanding Common Shares (except pursuant to a Permitted Offer, as hereinafter defined), or (ii) 10 days (or such later date as the Board of Directors of the Corporation may determine) following the commencement or announcement of an intention to make a tender or exchange offer, the consummation of which would result in a person or group becoming an Acquiring Person (as hereinafter defined) (the earliest of such dates being called the "Distribution Date"). A person or group whose acquisition of Common Shares causes a Distribution Date pursuant to clause (i) above is an "Acquiring Person." Because of their level of ownership of Common Shares at December 15, 1998, Loomis, Sayles & Company, L.P. and certain related entities have been specifically excluded from the definition of "Acquiring Person", provided that they will become an Acquiring Person if they acquire Common Shares in excess of 1% of their current beneficial ownership. The date that a person or group announces publicly that it has become an Acquiring Person is the "Shares Acquisition Date." In addition, the term "Acquiring Person" shall not include any person who became the beneficial owner of 15% or more of the then outstanding Common Shares as a result of the purchase of Common Shares, pursuant to any one of those certain Subscription Agreements, dated as of July 6, 2004 between the Corporation and certain accredited institutional investors, as approved by the Board of Directors of the Corporation on July 2, 2004, unless and until, subject to the other terms and limitations of the Rights Agreement,

such time thereafter as any such person shall become the beneficial owner of additional Common Shares (other than by means of stock dividend, stock split or otherwise as a result of the acquisition of additional Common Shares directly

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from the Corporation) constituting an additional 1% of the outstanding shares of the Corporation.

The Rights Agreement provides that, until the Distribution Date, the Rights will be transferred with and only with the Common Shares. Until the Distribution Date (or earlier redemption or expiration of the Rights), new Common Share certificates issued after the Record Date upon transfer or new issuance of Common Shares will contain a notation incorporating the Rights Agreement by reference. Until the Distribution Date (or earlier redemption or expiration of the Rights), the surrender for transfer of any certificates for Common Shares outstanding as of the Record Date, even without such notation or a copy of this Summary of Rights being attached thereto, will also constitute the transfer of the Rights associated with the Common Shares represented by such certificate. As soon as practicable following the Distribution Date, separate certificates evidencing the Rights ("Right Certificates") will be mailed to holders of record of the Common Shares as of the close of business on the Distribution Date (and to each initial record holder of certain Common Shares issued after the Distribution Date), and such separate Right Certificates alone will evidence the Rights.

The Rights are not exercisable until the Distribution Date and will expire at the close of business on December 30, 2008, unless earlier redeemed by the Corporation as described below.

In the event that any person becomes an Acquiring Person or an affiliate or associate thereof, (except pursuant to a tender or exchange offer which is for all outstanding Common Shares at a price and on terms which a majority of certain members of the Board of Directors determines to be adequate and in the best interests of the Corporation, its stockholders and other relevant constituencies, other than such Acquiring Person, its affiliates and associates (a "Permitted Offer")), each holder of a Right will thereafter have the right (the "Flip-in Right") to receive upon exercise the number of Common Shares or one one-thousandth of a share of Preferred Shares (or, in certain circumstances, other securities of the Corporation) having a value (immediately prior to such triggering event) equal to two times the exercise price of the Right. Notwithstanding the foregoing, following the occurrence of the event described above, all Rights that are, or (under certain circumstances specified in the Rights Agreement) were, beneficially owned by any Acquiring Person or any affiliate or associate thereof will be null and void.

In the event that, at any time following the Shares Acquisition Date, (i) the Corporation is acquired in a merger or other business combination transaction in which the holders of all of the outstanding Common Shares immediately prior to the consummation of the transaction are not the holders of all of the surviving corporation's voting power, or (ii) more than 50% of the Corporation's assets or earning power is sold or transferred, in either case with or to an Acquiring Person or any affiliate or associate or any other person in which such Acquiring Person, affiliate or associate has an interest or any person acting on behalf of or in concert with such Acquiring Person, affiliate or associate, or, if in such transaction all holders of Common Shares are not treated alike, then each holder of a Right (except Rights which previously have been voided as set forth above) shall thereafter have the right (the "Flip-over Right") to receive, upon exercise, common shares of the acquiring company (or in certain circumstances, its parent) having a value equal to two times the

exercise price of the Right. The holder of a Right will continue to have the Flip-Over Right whether or not such holder exercises or surrenders the Flip-In Right.

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The Purchase Price payable, and the number of Preferred Shares, Common Shares or other securities issuable, upon exercise of the Rights are subject to adjustment from time to time to prevent dilution (i) in the event of a stock dividend on, or a subdivision, combination or reclassification of, the Preferred Shares, (ii) upon the grant to holders of the Preferred Shares of certain rights or warrants to subscribe for or purchase Preferred Shares of certain rights or warrants to subscribe for or purchase Preferred Shares at a price, or securities convertible into Preferred Shares with a conversion price, less than the then current market price of the Preferred Shares, or (iii) upon the distribution to holders of the Preferred Shares of evidences of indebtedness or assets (excluding regular quarterly cash dividends) or of subscription rights or warrants (other than those referred to above.)

The number of outstanding Rights and the number of one one-thousandths of a Preferred Share issuable upon exercise of each Right are also subject to adjustment in the event of a stock split of the Common Shares or a stock dividend on the Common Shares payable in Common Shares or subdivisions, consolidations or combinations of the Common Shares occurring, in any such case, prior to the Distribution Date.

Preferred Shares purchasable upon exercise of the Rights will not be redeemable. Each Preferred Share will be entitled to a minimum preferential quarterly dividend payment of \$10.00 per share but, if greater, will be entitled to an aggregate dividend per share of 1,000 times the dividend declared per Common Share. In the event of liquidation, the holders of the Preferred Shares will be entitled to the greater of (i) a minimum preferential liquidation payment of \$1,000 per share and (ii) an aggregate payment per share of at least 1,000 times the aggregate payment made per Common Share. These rights are protected by customary antidilution provisions. In the event that the amount of accrued and unpaid dividends on the Preferred Shares is equivalent to six full quarterly dividends or more, the holders of the Preferred Shares shall have the right, voting as a class, to elect two directors in addition to the directors elected by the holders of the Common Shares until all cumulative dividends on the Preferred Shares have been paid through the last quarterly dividend payment date or until non-cumulative dividends have been paid regularly for at least one year.

With certain exceptions, no adjustment in the Purchase Price will be required until cumulative adjustments require an adjustment of at least 1% in such Purchase Price. No fractional Preferred Shares will be issued (other than fractions which are one one-thousandth or integral multiples of one one-thousandth of a Preferred Share, which may, at the election of the Corporation, be evidenced by depository receipts) and in lieu thereof, an adjustment in cash will be made based on the market price of the Preferred Shares on the last trading day prior to the date of exercise.

At any time prior to the earlier to occur of (i) a person becoming an Acquiring Person or (ii) the expiration of the Rights, and under certain other circumstances, the Corporation may redeem the Rights in whole, but not in

part, at a price of \$.01 per Right (the "Redemption Price") which redemption shall be effective upon the action of the Board of Directors. Additionally, following the Shares Acquisition Date, the Corporation may redeem the then outstanding Rights in whole, but not in part, at the Redemption Price, provided that such redemption is in connection with a merger or other business combination transaction or series of transactions involving the Corporation in which all holders of Common Shares are treated alike but not involving an

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Acquiring Person or its affiliates or associates. The payment of the Redemption Price may be deferred under certain circumstances as contemplated in the Rights Agreement.

All of the provisions of the Rights Agreement may be amended by the Board of Directors of the Corporation prior to the Distribution Date. After the Distribution Date, the provisions of the Rights Agreement may be amended by the Board of Directors in order to cure any ambiguity, defect or inconsistency, to make changes which do not adversely affect the interests of holders of Rights (excluding the interests of any Acquiring Person), or, subject to certain limitations, to shorten or lengthen any time period under the Rights Agreement.

Until a Right is exercised, the holder thereof, as such, will have no rights as a stockholder of the Corporation, including, without limitation, the right to vote or to receive dividends. While the distribution of the Rights will not be taxable to stockholders of the Corporation, stockholders may, depending upon the circumstances, recognize taxable income should the Rights become exercisable or upon the occurrence of certain events thereafter.

Attached hereto as Exhibit 1 and incorporated herein by reference are a copy of the Amended and Restated Rights Agreement, dated January 5, 2005, between the Corporation and Continental Stock Transfer & Trust Company, as Rights Agent, specifying the terms of the Rights, and the exhibits thereto, as follows: Exhibit A - Certificate of Designation, Preferences and Rights of Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock; Exhibit B - Form of Right Certificate; and Exhibit C - Summary of Rights to Purchase Preferred Shares. The foregoing description of the Rights is qualified in its entirety by reference to the Rights Agreement.

Item 2. EXHIBITS

Listed below are all exhibits filed as a part of this registration statement.

EXHIBIT

NUMBER

DESCRIPTION

1

Amended and Restated Rights Agreement dated as of January 5, 2005, between Denny's Corporation and Continental Stock Transfer & Trust Company (including Form of Right Certificate) (filed herewith).

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 12 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this registration statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereto duly authorized.

DENNY'S CORPORATION

Date: January 12, 2005

By:

Rhonda J. Parish

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Executive Vice President, General
Counsel and Secretary