

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

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported) November 30, 1998

MERITAGE CORPORATION

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Maryland	1-9977	86-0611231
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(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)	(Commission File Number)	(IRS Employer Identification No.)

6613 North Scottsdale Road, Suite 200, Scottsdale, Arizona	85250
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(Address of principal executive offices)	(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code (602) 998-8700

NONE

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

ITEMS 1-4. NOT APPLICABLE.

ITEM 5. OTHER EVENTS.

The Company has received information that Summit Venture Partners has commenced a tender offer to purchase up to two (2) percent of the outstanding shares of the Company's common stock. Exhibit 99.1 attached hereto is a press release containing the Company's response to the tender offer.

ITEM 6. NOT APPLICABLE.

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

(a) Not Applicable

(b) Not Applicable

(c) Exhibit 99.1 Press Release dated December 18, 1998

ITEM 8. NOT APPLICABLE

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.

MERITAGE CORPORATION

Date: December 22, 1998

By: /s/ Larry W. Seay

Larry W. Seay
Vice President of Finance and
Chief Financial Officer

MERITAGE CORP. RESPONDS TO TENDER OFFER BY SUMMIT VENTURE PARTNERS

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. and DALLAS -- (BUSINESS WIRE) -- Dec. 18, 1998-- Meritage Corp., formerly Monterey Homes Corp. (NYSE:MTH) Friday reported that it has become aware of an unsolicited tender offer by Summit Venture Partners to purchase up to two (2) percent of the outstanding shares of Meritage common stock.

Meritage understands that on Nov. 30, 1998, Summit Venture Partners purportedly commenced a tender offer for Meritage shares at a price of \$10.00 per share, less any distributions paid on or after Sept. 30, 1998, which according to Summit Venture Partners may not represent fair market value of the shares.

The closing price of Meritage common stock on the New York Stock Exchange on Nov. 30, 1998, the date the offer was commenced, was \$14.50 or approximately 45% above the Summit Venture Partner offer price. The closing price of Meritage common stock on Dec. 17, 1998 was \$13.00. Meritage strongly recommends that its shareholders reject the tender offer by Summit Venture Partners because the offer price is inadequate.

Summit Venture Partners is in no way affiliated with Meritage and did not contact Meritage prior to the commencement of the offer. Meritage learned of the offer only when investors and brokers called to inquire about it. Meritage does not have any other information regarding the tender offer by Summit Venture Partners.

Meritage Corp. designs, builds and sells distinctive single family semi-custom luxury and move-up homes in the Phoenix and Tucson, Arizona areas, move-up and entry level homes in the in the Dallas/Fort Worth, Austin and Houston, Texas areas, and first and second time move-up homes in the San Francisco area.

CONTACT: Meritage Corp., Arizona
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or
Meritage Corp., Texas
Jane Hays, 972/612-8085
or
Broadgate Consultants, New York
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