HENNESSY ADVISORS INC Form 13F-HR January 13, 2004

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

Form 13F

Form 13F COVER PAGE

Report for the Calendar Year or Quarter Ended: December 31, 2003

Check here if Amendment [ ]; Amendment Number:

This Amendment (Check only one.): [ ] is a restatement.

[ ] adds new holdings entries.

Institutional Investment Manager Filing this Report:

Name: Hennessy Advisors, Inc. Address: The Courtyard Square 750 Grant Avenue

Suite 100

Novato, CA 94945

Form 13F File Number: 028-06715

The institutional investment manager filing this report and the person by whom it is signed hereby represent that the person signing the report is authorized to submit it, that all information contained herein is true, correct and complete, and that it is understood that all required items, statements, schedules, lists, and tables, are considered integral parts of this form.

Person Signing this Report on Behalf of Reporting Manager:

Name: Teresa M. Nilsen

Title: Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

Phone: (415) 899-1555

Signature, Place, and Date of Signing:

/s/ Teresa M. Nilsen Novato, CA 1/8/04

Teresa M. Nilsen Date

Report Type (Check only one.):

[X] 13F HOLDINGS REPORT. (Check here if all holdings of this reporting manager

are reported in this report.)

- [ ] 13F NOTICE. (Check here if no holdings reported are in this report, and all holdings are reported by other reporting manager(s).)
- [ ] 13F COMBINATION REPORT. (Check here if a portion of the holdings for this reporting manager are reported in this report and a portion are reported by other reporting manager(s).)

#### FORM 13F SUMMARY PAGE

#### Report Summary:

Number of Other Included Managers:

Form 13F Information Table Entry Total:

138
----
Form 13F Information Table Value Total:

\$ 983,334
----(thousands)

List of Other Included Managers: NONE

Provide a numbered list of the name(s) and Form 13F file numbers(s) of all institutional investment managers with respect to which this report is filed, other than the manager filing this report.

Page 1 of 6

#### FORM 13F INFORMATION TABLE

Column 1:	Column 2:	Column 3:	Column 4:	Column 5:			Column	6 <b>:</b>
Name of Issuer	Title of Class		Market Value (x\$1,000)			Inves	stment Dis	cretio
					SH/ Put/ PRN Call			
NAM TAI ELECTRONICS	ADR	629865205	35,819	1,275,610	SH	SOLE		
HARMAN INTERNATIONAL INDS	COM	413086109	30,657	414,400	SH	SOLE		
PACIFICARE HEALTH SYS	COM	695112102	30,352	449,000	 SH	SOLE		

ENGINEERED SUPPORT SYSTEMS	COM	292866100	27 <b>,</b> 395	497 <b>,</b> 550	SH	SOLE
SELECT COMFORT CORP	COM	81616X103	26 <b>,</b> 191	1,057,800	SH	SOLE
AVID TECHNOLOGY INC	COM	05367P100	26 <b>,</b> 078	543,300	SH	SOLE
HUNT (JB) TRANSPRT SVCS INC	COM	445658107	23,612	874,200	SH	SOLE
TRACTOR SUPPLY CO	COM	892356106	23,326	598 <b>,</b> 200	SH	SOLE
FLAGSTAR BANCORP INC	COM	337930101	23,086	1,077,800	SH	SOLE
CHICAGO BRIDGE & IRON CO	ADR	167250109	21,083	729,500	SH	SOLE
OLD DOMINION FREIGHT	COM	679580100	19,985	586,400	SH	SOLE
WESTERN DIGITAL CORP	COM	958102105	19 <b>,</b> 745	1,674,700	SH	SOLE
PACIFIC SUNWEAR CALIF INC	COM	694873100	19,535	925,850	SH	SOLE
BENCHMARK ELECTRONICS INC	COM	08160H101	19 <b>,</b> 128	549 <b>,</b> 500	SH	SOLE
ROCKWELL AUTOMATION	COM	773903109	18,830	528 <b>,</b> 972	SH	SOLE
SBC COMMUNICATIONS INC	COM	78387G103	18,754	960,157	SH	SOLE
AETNA INC	COM	00817Y108	18,747	277,400	SH	SOLE
JARDEN CORP	COM	471109108	18,744	685 <b>,</b> 600	SH	SOLE
CARLISLE COS INC	COM	142339100	17,625	289,600	SH	SOLE
TORO CO	COM	891092108	17,210	370 <b>,</b> 900	SH	SOLE
LANDAMERICA FINANCIAL GP	COM	514936103	16 <b>,</b> 958	324 <b>,</b> 500	SH	SOLE
FIDELITY NATIONAL FINL INC	COM	316326107	16,873	435,100	SH	SOLE
FOSSIL INC	COM	349882100	16 <b>,</b> 757	595 <b>,</b> 700	SH	SOLE
NBTY INC	COM	628782104	16 <b>,</b> 683	621,100	SH	SOLE

Page 2 of 6

#### FORM 13F INFORMATION TABLE

Name of Reporting Manager: Hennessy Funds

Column 1: Column 2: Column 3: Column 4: Column 5: Column 6:

Name of Issuer	Title of Class	CUSIP Number	Market Value (x\$1,000)	Shares Principal	or Amount	Inves	tment Dis	cretic
					SH/ Put/ PRN Call	Sole	Shared- Defined	Share Othe
AMERICAN GREETINGS -CL A	COM	026375105	16 <b>,</b> 658	761,700	SH	SOLE		
RENT-A-CENTER INC	COM	76009N100	16,403	546,750	SH	SOLE		
UGI CORP	COM	902681105	16 <b>,</b> 290	481,362	SH	SOLE		
CENTRAL GARDEN & PET CO	COM	153527106	16,249	579 <b>,</b> 700	SH	SOLE		
NVR INC	COM	62944T105	16,124	34,600	SH	SOLE		
WHOLE FOODS MARKET INC	COM	966837106	15 <b>,</b> 802	235,400	SH	SOLE		
LANDSTAR SYSTEM INC	COM	515098101	15 <b>,</b> 695	412,600	SH	SOLE		
SAKS INC	COM	79377W108	15 <b>,</b> 499	1,030,500	SH	SOLE		
QUIKSILVER INC	COM	74838C106	15 <b>,</b> 390	868,000	SH	SOLE		
FIRST AMERICAN CORP/CA	COM	318522307	15 <b>,</b> 352	515,700	SH	SOLE		
CLARCOR INC	COM	179895107	15 <b>,</b> 078	341,900	SH	SOLE		
BUNGE LTD	СОМ	sedol - 2788713	14,982	455 <b>,</b> 100	SH	SOLE		
JACOBS ENGINEERING GROUP INC	COM	469814107	14,946	311,300	SH	SOLE		
EGL INC	COM	268484102	14,730	837,900	SH	SOLE		
AMETEK INC	COM	031100100	14,661	303,800	SH	SOLE		
DOLLAR THRIFTY AUTOMOTIVE GP	СОМ	256743105	14,589	562,400	SH	SOLE		
VARCO INTERNATIONAL INC		922122106	14,532	704,400	SH	SOLE		
ROLLINS INC	COM	775711104	14,460	641,250	SH	SOLE		
BALL CORP	COM	058498106	13 <b>,</b> 767	231,100	SH	SOLE		
ROSS STORES INC	COM	778296103	13,521	511,000	SH	SOLE		
PACTIV CORP	COM		12 <b>,</b> 798	535,500		SOLE		
ALBEMARLE CORP	COM		12,342	411,800	SH	SOLE		
TIMKEN CO	COM	887389104	11,916	594,000	SH	SOLE		
IMATION CORP	COM	45245A107	10,633	302,500	SH	SOLE		

Page 3 of 6

## FORM 13F INFORMATION TABLE

Column 1:	Column 2.	Column 3.	Column 4.	Column	, 5.		Column	6.
					· J.			
Name of Issuer	Title of Class	CUSIP Number	Market Value (x\$1,000)	Shares Principal		Inves	tment Dis	cretic
					SH/ Put/ PRN Call	Sole	Shared- Defined	Share Othe
COORS (ADOLPH) -CL B	COM	217016104	10,575	188 <b>,</b> 500	SH	SOLE		
SENSIENT TECHNOLOGIES CORP	COM	81725T100	9,893	500,400	SH	SOLE		
COCA-COLA BTLNG CONS	COM	191098102	9,113	172,400	SH	SOLE		
GENERAL MOTORS CORP	COM	370442105	2 <b>,</b> 397	44,879	SH	SOLE		
Altria Group Inc	COM	02209S103	2,234	42,136	SH	SOLE		
J P MORGAN CHASE & CO	COM	46625H100	2,085	57 <b>,</b> 750	SH	SOLE		
VERIZON COMMUNICATIONS	COM	92343V104	1 <b>,</b> 971	36 <b>,</b> 620	SH	SOLE		
DU PONT (E I) DE NEMOURS	COM	263534109	1,967	42 <b>,</b> 775	SH	SOLE		
AT&T CORP	COM	001957505	1,820	94,850	SH	SOLE		
PRECISION CASTPARTS CORP	COM	740189105	1,653	36,400	SH	SOLE		
GEORGIA-PACIFIC CORP	COM	373298108	1,632	53,200	SH	SOLE		
LOUISIANA-PACIFIC CORP	COM	546347105	1,620	90,600	SH	SOLE		
AVNET INC	COM	053807103	1,603	74,000	SH	SOLE		
AVAYA INC	COM	053499109	1 <b>,</b> 577	122,130	SH	SOLE		
ALLIED WASTE INDS INC	COM	019589308	1 <b>,</b> 571	113,200	SH	SOLE		
TRINITY INDUSTRIES	COM	896522109	1,505			SOLE		
RITE AID CORP	COM	767754104	1,491	246,800		SOLE		
HASBRO INC	COM	418056107	1 <b>,</b> 475	69,300	SH	SOLE		
SELECT MEDICAL CORP	COM	816196109	1,444	88 <b>,</b> 700	SH	SOLE		
PACCAR INC	COM	693718108	1 <b>,</b> 396	16,400	SH	SOLE		

CUMMINS INC	COM	231021106	1,351	27,600	SH	SOLE
PERKINELMER INC	COM	714046109	1,350	79,100	SH	SOLE
BP PLC -ADS	ADR	055622104	1,350	19,873	SH	SOLE
EXXON MOBIL CORPORATION	COM	30231G102	1,325	33,775	SH	SOLE

Page 4 of 6

### FORM 13F INFORMATION TABLE

Column 1:	Column 2:	Column 3:	Column 4:	Column	5:		Column	6:
Name of Issuer	Title of Class	CUSIP Number	Market Value (x\$1,000)	Shares Principal		Inves	tment Dis	cretic
					SH/ Put/ PRN Call	Sole	Shared- Defined	
PROVIDIAN FINANCIAL CORP	COM	74406A102	1,311	112,600	SH	SOLE		
JABIL CIRCUIT INC	COM	466313103	1,307	46,200	SH	SOLE		
STORAGE TECHNOLOGY CP	COM	862111200	1,288	50,000	SH	SOLE		
SPRINT PCS GROUP	COM	852061506	1,235	219,700	SH	SOLE		
MENS WEARHOUSE INC	COM	587118100	1,220	48,800	SH	SOLE		
CONTINENTAL AIRLS INC -CL B	COM	210795308	1,210	74,400	SH	SOLE		
FREDS INC	COM	356108100	1,209	39,000	SH	SOLE		
WESTERN WIRELESS CORP -CL A	СОМ	95988E204	1,201	65,400	SH	SOLE		
CARMAX INC	COM	143130102	1,144	37,000	SH	SOLE		
MAXTOR CORP	COM	577729205	1,132	102,000	SH	SOLE		
Charles Schwab Corp	COM	808513105	1,109	18,831	SH	SOLE		
CITIGROUP INC	COM	172967101	1,107	22,950	SH	SOLE		
BANK of AMERICA CORP	COM	060505104	1,047	22,213	SH	SOLE		
HONEYWELL INTERNATIONAL	COM	438516106	1,006	31,870	SH	SOLE		

GATEWAY INC	COM	367626108		,	SH	SOLE
MERCK & CO	COM	589331107	964	20,895	SH	SOLE
	ADR	007924103	864	10,740	SH	SOLE
EASTMAN KODAK CO	COM	277461109	852	34,600	SH	SOLE
GENERAL ELECTRIC CO.	COM	369604103	784	30,622	SH	SOLE
SPRINT FON GROUP	COM	852061100	666	36 <b>,</b> 275	SH	SOLE
INTERNATIONAL PAPER CO	COM	460146103	622	15 <b>,</b> 699	SH	SOLE
BELLSOUTH CORP		079860102			SH	SOLE
Enron Corp	COM	293561106	536	10,775	SH	SOLE
DOW CHEMICAL	COM	260543103	520	12,500	SH	SOLE

Page 5 of 6

#### FORM 13F INFORMATION TABLE

	Column 2:			Column 5:	
Name of Issuer	Title of Class	CUSIP Number	Market Value (x\$1,000)	Shares or Principal Amount	Investment Discretio
				SH/ Put/	Shared- Share Sole Defined Othe
ALBERTSONS INC				•	
BRISTOL MYERS SQUIBB					
ALLTEL CORP	COM	020039103	500	10,730 SH	SOLE
SHELL TRAN™ -ADR	ADR	822703609	495	11,000 SH	SOLE
DONNELLEY (R R) &				16,400 SH	
DELPHI CORP	COM	247126105	494	48,366 SH	SOLE
CHEVRONTEXACO CORP	COM			16,092 SH	
CONOCOPHILLIPS				7,500 SH	
MARATHON OIL CORP				•	
SARA LEE CORP					

U S BANCORP	COM	902973304	486	16,360	SH	SOLE	
MAY DEPARTMENT STORES CO		577778103					
CEMEX S A -ADR	ADR	151290889	485	18,500	SH	SOLE	
KERR-MCGEE CORP							
NEWELL RUBBERMAID INC	COM	651229106	483	21,200	SH	SOLE	
COMERICA INC.		200340107		8,600	SH	SOLE	
DAIMLERCHRYSLER AG				10,400	SH	SOLE	
WELLS FARGO & CO	COM	949746101	477	118,100	SH	SOLE	
PITNEY BOWES INC	COM	724479100	475	11,700	SH	SOLE	
ST PAUL COS		792860108					
GLAXOSMITHKLINE PLC		37733W105					
DIAGEO PLC -ADR	ADR	25243Q205	470	8,900	SH	SOLE	
WASHINGTON MUTUAL INC	COM	939322103	470	11,830	SH	SOLE	
NATIONAL CITY CORP	СОМ	635405103	468	13,800 	SH	SOLE	

Page 6 of 6

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Column 1:	Column 2:			Column 5:	Column 6:
	Class	CUSIP Number	Market Value (x\$1,000)	Shares or	Investment Discretio
				SH/ Put/ PRN Call	Shared- Share Sole Defined Othe
BB&T CORP					
MEADWESTVACO CORP		583334107	467		SOLE
HUNTINGTON BANCSHARES		446150104	466	20,700 SH	SOLE
AMSOUTH BANCORPORATION					
LINCOLN NATIONAL CORP	COM	534187109	464 	11,500 SH	SOLE

FIRST TENNESSEE NATL CORP	COM	337162101	463	10,500	SH	SOLE
		879403780	462	14,000	SH	SOLE
REGIONS FINL CORP	COM	758940100				SOLE
WACHOVIA CORP	COM	929903102	461	9,900	SH	SOLE
CONAGRA FOODS INC	COM	205887102	459	17,400	SH	SOLE
HEINZ (H J) CO	COM	423074103	455	12,500	SH	SOLE
	COM	372460105	455	13,700	SH	SOLE
Westamerica Bancorp	COM	957090103	445			
CATERPILLAR INC	COM	149123101	438	•		SOLE
Vodafone Group Plc		92857W100				
ALCOA INC	COM	013817101	385	10,125	SH	SOLE
Lucent Technologies Inc	COM	549463107	337	8,210	SH	SOLE
P G & E Corp		69331C108		•		
TOTAL			983 <b>,</b> 334			